Youth join the masses in 30th 'Walk for the Red.' PAGE 2
Somber mood as Tinian commemorates San Jose Fiesta. PAGE 7

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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75¢

Man in possession of ATM skimming devices arrested

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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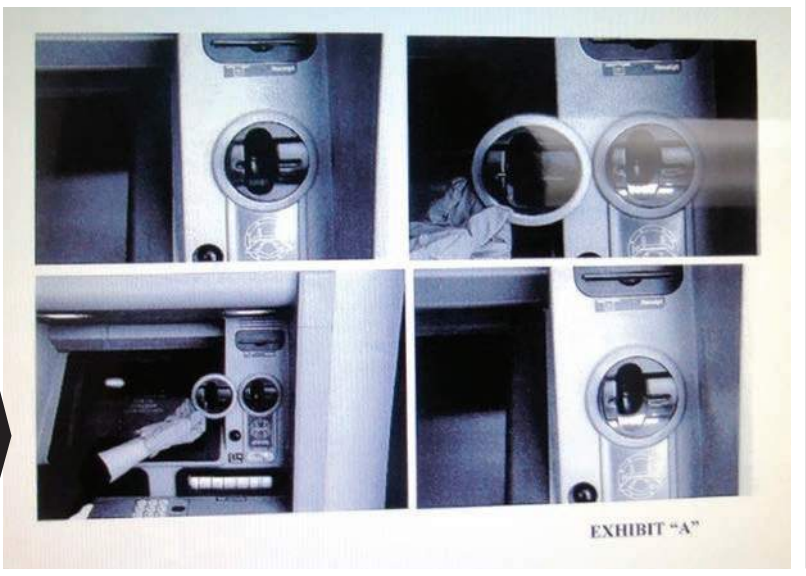
REPORTER

Federal Bureau of Investigation special agents arrested on Friday a Chinese man who was allegedly found concealing in his luggage ATM skimming devices.

Xiaolin Yang was served with an arrest warrant issued by U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy on Friday after the U.S. government filed a complaint charging him with illegal possession of device-making equipment.

At an initial court appearance on

See MAN on Page 4



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
FBI photos compare skimming devices seized from Xiaolin Yang with that of Bank of Guam in Garapan that allegedly confirmed the illegal card readers were an exact match with the factory installed card readers present on the bank's ATM machines.

FY '17 budget in; 10-pct increase from last year

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has sent his proposed budget for fiscal year 2017 to the Legislature, marking up $127.8 million available for the general budget.

Torres

After adjustments, the budget is an increase of $14,986,250, or a 10-percent increase from last fiscal year. Gross budgetary resources for fiscal 2017 are at $203.42 million.

"This is a result of the continued considerable growth of our tourism

See BUDGET on Page 4

PAL: Right time to bring back Manila-Saipan route

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Philippine Airlines is all set to fly to Saipan on June.

The Philippines' flag carrier and Asia's first airline, which recently celebrated its 75th anniversary, held a press conference and gala night to give CNMI stakeholders and residents an overview of their products and services as well as intro-

See PAL on Page 4

FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
Philippine Airlines held a press conference and gala night to give CNMI stakeholders and residents an overview of their products and services as well as introduce the Philippines as a destination at the Fiesta Resort and Spa last Friday. From left is POI Aviation general manager Aurelia Kretzers, Tan Holdings corporate consultant David Sablan, Philippine honorary consul Glicerio Arago, PAL's senior vice president for airline operations Ismael Augusto Gozon, PAL Express president Bonifacio Sam, PAL Express commercial and business development assistant vice president Rabbi Ang, and PAL area manager for Guam, CNMI, and FSM Maryann Cabreros.

INSIDE

LOCAL
Frances "Frannie" Demapan took her oath as the newest NMI Bar member on Friday at the CNMI Supreme Court.

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ASIA
The Philippine presidential race front-runner said Friday he has no ill-gotten wealth.

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LIFE & STYLE
Shirley's Coffee Shop Garapan, at Century Hotel's ground floor, re-opened last week.

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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Local

Youth join the masses in 30th 'Walk for the Red'

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

Four-year-old Dariama Odoshi woke up early to walk along the Beach Road pathway with her brother, Michael, 9, and cousin, Abaraham, 5, as a part of the 30th Annual Red Cross "Walk for Red" at the Civic Center in Susupe last Saturday.

As the youngest among the thousands of people who took part in the event, their mother, Alfreda, told *Saipan Tribune* that they take part in the walk every year because "I want them to know how to give back to the community."

"This is one small way for them to give back," she added. "It is also good for their health so they should start exercising too to lessen the disease that is so common now in the community."

Many young members of the island community were in strong attendance as several private and public schools coordinated their peers' participation. Walkers donned this year's navy blue walkathon shirt.

THOMAS MANGLONA II

Four-year-old Dariama Odoshi, second from right, poses for a photo with her mother, Alfreda, brother Michael, center, and cousin Abraham during last Saturday's "Walk for the Red" at the Civic Center in Susupe.

Aid stations were set up along the stretch from Beach Road toward Garapan, manned by volunteers who provided water, sports drinks, fruits, and giveaways to participants.

The turnout drew praise from American Red Cross-NMI Chapter executive director John Hirsch.

"This morning there were a lot of people. It is great to see so many people come out early to support a great cause like the Red Cross," he said. "We are just so grateful for everyone in the community, all volunteers, all our donors of course, all of our business partners, and all of our community partners for supporting us."

Saturday's event also marked the organization's 30th anniversary. He added, "This year we amped up our carnival prizes and games. We got some additional immunization and flu shot booths as well as blood sugar checks and others booths set up. We even have Zumba. The weather is perfect, too."

Another official addressed the crowd, saying, "Your support goes a long away. Your support equals hope."

Many government agencies, businesses, and organizations set up information booths and healthy food demonstrations as well.

Robert Suzuki Jr. with the Youth Empowerment Alliance for Health said, "the community should have more events like this and more outreach to educate the community on the different services we offer."

The past two walkathons drew more than 2,000 participants. The same involvement, if not more, was prevalent at last weekend's event.

Garapan Elementary School AmeriCorps tutor Edna Nisola explained that she takes part in the event every year to make a difference.

She added, "It is so great that people are coming here to volunteer and raise money for the American Red Cross."

THOMAS MANGLONA II

Organizations educate walkathon participants about healthy eating and activities.

CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

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1 x Air Compressor:
375 CFM, 2013, Paletek Sullivan, 750 hrs approx. ***$36,500***

1 x Flatbed Truck:
18 Ft Fuso, 2007, Auto, 26,067 miles approx. ***$56,500***

1 x Dump Truck:
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IN STOCK ON GUAM

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HYUNDAI EXCAVATORS:
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E30SR (3T) Rubber Track Mini Excavator ***$24,500***
Open Cab, SA Piping, 29 HP, Yanmar Engine, 2615 hrs

2008, Hyundai:
R210 LC-7 (21 Ton) Steel Track Excavator, Quick Coupler, ***$65,800***
SA Piping, A/C Cab, 143 HP Cummins Engine, 5600 hrs

2013, Hyundai:
R320 LC-9 (32 Ton) Steel Track Excavator, ***$125,500***
Quick Coupler, SA Piping, A/C Cab,
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IN STOCK ON GUAM

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Up Close program discusses Tinian divert, militarization

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Militarization in the Northern Marianas was the topic of choice for this year's Up Close program of the CNMI Public School System held at the Saipan World Resort last Thursday.

Sixty-five students from Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr./Sr. High School on Rota, Grace Christian Academy, Kagman High School, Marianas High School, Saipan Southern High School, and Tinian Jr./Sr. High School took part in the discussions, which focused on the proposed divert airfield on Tinian.

"If you look at the topic, it's very relevant. This is something that's going to affect our lives in many ways. Military had such a big presence in World War II and now their back. Not at the same capacity as they were before but they're back here. Some people see it positively, some people don't," PSS Social Studies program coordinator Patricia Sablan said.

The objectives were to define and explain the political relationship of the CNMI, determine the effects of that political relationship, critique viewpoints from various stakeholders regarding proposed plans, and create and share their own informed opinions regarding these proposed plans.

To represent all sides of the militarization issue, PSS invited guest speakers such as Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Sen. Arnold Palacios (R-Saipan), legislative assistant to Sen. Jude Hoffschneider (R-Tinian) Joseph Hocog, Northern Islands Mayor Jerome Aldan, Maj. Chris Merrill of Joint Region Marianas, Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality-Division of Environmental Quality acting director Ray Masga, Henry Hofschneider of Saipan Mayor's Office, Atty. Rosemond Santos, Juanita Masga Mendiola of Fanacho Marianas, and press secretary Ivan Blanco.

"Each of the students have a theme on their table so they're focusing on one aspect of the divert airfields to be built on Tinian," Sablan said, "We want the students to understand the issues better."

Each speaker interacted with the students who were divided into eight groups which focused on specific areas of the divert airfield issue such as economic, political, social-cultural, and environmental.

Merril said most of the students asked questions to build their familiarity with the topic, adding that he shared both positive and negative impacts.

"Anytime you're going to change something, you're going to have good and bad effects regardless of what it is you're changing," Merril said, "What I tried to bring out to them is it takes the wide swath of government, not just the military in this case, that has a problem that they need to solve."

He noted that the exercise was a great way to help shape students' thought processes and their understanding of the government.

"You're supposed to disagree, and in those disagreements you uncover the problems. Once you uncover the problem, now you have something to solve together. That's how we can make change happen," Merril said.

Each of the groups listed both the positive and negative impacts of the militarization with regards to their focus area and shared it to the other groups during discussion.

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or email championfinancecnmi@gmail.com

WOW 1st BIG $5000 WINNER

Diamonds are a girl's best friend they say and if you play the new Northern Marianas Sports Association fundraiser, scratching and matching three Diamonds will be your best friend and will definitely win you $5000 cash instantly!

On Thursday afternoon at Mobil Gas Station in Chalan Kiya, a lucky man played the new $3 game called Hot 7's and scratched and matched three Diamonds. WOW! WOW! BOOM! His winning ticket was verified and he was thanked and presented with his $5000 cash prize. NMSA paid the full $5000 prize since it is tax paid by NMSA so he gets to keep the whole $5000! NMSA are keeping his identity confidential due to the size of his prize as with all the $5000 winners.

There are many $5000 prizes located around the CNMI just waiting for someone to scratch and win them. Other prizes include instant cash wins of $5, $6, $10, $25, $50, $100 and $500. Good Luck to everyone. You could be the next $5000 instant cash winner!

NMSA and Mobil Chalan Kiya Representatives were pictured celebrating the huge win during the presentation. Pictured are NMSA Rep Anicia Kisa (Left) and Mobil Chalan Kiya Owner Jovi Flores (Right) and Mobil Managers Maggie Kaipat (center right) and Marilyn Ejercito (center left).

PAL

From Page 1

duce the Philippines as a destination at the Fiesta Resort & Spa last Friday.

Saipan will be PAL's 44th international destination. It also has 31 domestic destinations as of current. PAL boasts of 76 modern aircraft, half of which are new generation jets less than five years old.

PAL used to service the Manila-Saipan route in the early 1990s. Asked why they have decided to return now, PAL's senior vice president for airline operations Ismael Augusto Gozon said it is the "right time" and that there is an undeniable need for service between the two countries.

"I think this is the right time because there are a lot Filipinos who work in the CNMI not to mention the Filipinos who have already resided here for three or four generations," Gozon said

Gozon said they are happy to be back and is looking forward to a stronger working relationship with the Commonwealth.

Tan Holdings vice president Ivan Quichocho highlighted the impact of having PAL's services on island from medical referral to tourism.

"Our medical referral, our citizens here in the CNMI are always travelling off-island. This allows us a very quick three-and-a-half-hour flight, easy access to immediate medical care," Quichocho said.

"Thank you Philippine Airlines," he added, "Thank you for choosing Saipan."

Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Chris Concepcion congratulated PAL and thanked them for flying here.

"On the tourism side, we are very excited to tap into your route network that it extends to Southeast Asia, China, and other networks that you guys have. We're looking forward working with your team. My team in Manila has already hit the ground running and working with you guys to promote this route," Concepcion said.

Tan Holdings corporate consultant David "Uncle Dave" M. Sablan said he will do his best to promote both destinations.

"You can be sure that I'm going to do my best to see to it that Philippine Airlines and the two destinations, out and in, are successful," Sablan said.

"I think we are going to be very successful," he added.

POI Aviation will be PAL's ground handling and general sales agent.

"We've handled Manila flights along with all the necessary medical transfers and all that stuff. We can handle it and we are very excited, thank you for flying to Saipan," POI Aviation general manager Aurelia Kretzers said.

Philippine honorary consul Glicerio Arago said Filipinos will surely be glad with the incoming service and that those who would wish to visit the Philippines will surely have a great time.

"Flying to the Philippines is expensive but this will change soon," Arago said, "This is a great opportunity to experience PAL which is uniquely Filipino."

There are about 22,000 Filipinos in the CNMI.

'Heart of the Filipino'

PAL also introduced their new branding philosophy called "Heart of the Filipino" carrying its role to represent the best of the Philippines to the world.

"During the 75th anniversary last March 15, we unveiled a new corporate vision to become, from three star, to a five star airline. All our efforts are geared towards this singular goal," PAL Express president Bonifacio Sam said.

"This new branding highlights the link between the airline and the country it serves for the last 70 decades," he added.

Saipan is the latest addition to PAL's route network, which recently included Doha, Jeddah, and Kuwait this year as well as Port Moresby, Cairns, Auckland, Jinjiang, and New York last year. PAL has introduced its newest link to the U.S. mainland which is the Cebu-Los Angeles service.

With a traveling time of four hours and 15 minutes, PAL's twice weekly service to Saipan will utilize the bi-class Airbus A320 with 12 business and 144 economy class seats.

PR 1571 departs Manila every Wednesday and Sunday at 9:20pm and arrives on Saipan at 3:35am local time. PR 1572 departs Saipan every Monday and Thursday at 4:35am and arrives in Manila at 6:45am.

BUDGET

From Page 1

economy persistent with the opening of new establishments triggering an increase in our tax collections across the board," said Gov. Ralph DLG Torres in his 15-page budget transmittal letter to the House of Representatives and Senate.

Among others, the Torres administration provides funding for the CNMI's new drug court program, judgments against government obligations, and also proposes a plan and funding to raise salaries for law enforcement across the board for the first time in years.

The budget also provides some funding for recovery groups to build typhoon-proof homes after Typhoon Soudelor and provides funding in anticipation for the increase in minimum wage and enactment of a House bill that would raise classified employees salaries in government slightly across the board.

The Public School System will get 25 percent of the net available budget as mandated per House Legislative Initiative 18-12, or $31.95 million. The Northern Marianas College is allocated $4 million.

Fiscal climate

Torres says that tourism will continue to contribute to the economy throughout the new fiscal year, noting an expected increase in airlines seats as early as this June and an additional 313 hotel rooms with the opening of the Kensington Hotel, that will "positively allow potential growth in arrivals."

Torres also notes that "Phase 1" of the integrated resort, or the casino resort industry, is "showing advance progress" and anticipates opening in the first quarter FY 2017. This will increase the number of hotel rooms in the market, and introduce new activities and products to tourists and local consumers.

"The opening of these new establishments is a promising indication of our continued economic growth" and will have an impact on tax collections that have been factored favorably into the enclosed budget proposal, Torres said.

Torres said his administration would continue to strengthen enforcement actions among government agencies to support the increased economic activity.

"During the next three years, it is essential that our government focus its efforts toward mitigating areas and entities which may potentially hinder growth if alternative solutions are not in place," Torres said. "Among these areas include the most pressing workforce issues facing the Commonwealth. We must collectively work together with our federal partners in our extension testimony to allow contractor workers beyond 2019. Without this, we will significantly place our economy in jeopardy," Torres said.

FY 2017's $203.42 million identified budget resources is broken down into $74.8 million from business gross tax revenue, or 37 percent of total resources; $41.8 million from incomes taxes, or 21 percent; $35.585 million from excise taxes, or 17 percent; and $29.178 million from other taxes, or 14 percent.

It is also broken down into $14.14 million from licenses and fees, $1.575 million from charges for services, and $6.31 million from other revenue sources.

Budget strategy

Torres says their approach to the development of the budget is to satisfy public school funding mandates and maintain funding in every department and agencies. "Departments were directed to asses their programs and curtail or eliminate non-essential spending," Torres said.

They took several approaches: first, examine past and current activities to "ensure minimum allocation" for the delivery of public services; they kept all vacancies for critical and essential programs; and lastly they re-evaluated "the results" for each department and agency and allocated funding to the most critical and essential programs.

This proposal validated by the budget worksheets enclosed is the net result of the funding requested by the departments and activities, which exceed available resources by $16.7 million.

In accordance with my constitutional duty to maintain a balanced budget, critical activities and programs were considered in this proposal.

Accordingly, this budget submission illustrates the following underlying assumptions and considerations: applied 25 percent of net general fund revenues to the Public School System; increased funding for active retirees Group Health and Life Insurance, or $351,000; inclusion of funding for 45 new NOPs and salary adjustments for all law enforcement officers; inclusion of funding for the CNMI Drug Court under the CNMI Judiciary; $500,000 for judgments against the government, and $500,000 for Substance Abuse Recovery Program.

It also includes, among others, funded utilities based on FY 2015 current level; funded utilities for the Public School System and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.; establishing the Commonwealth Advocates for Recovery Efforts (CARE) Program; inclusion of increase in the federal minimum wage from $6.05 per hour to $6.55 per hour this; inclusion of the projected funding impact of House Bill 19-003, which proposes salary increase for government; and increased funding toward the Scholarship Program, or $300,000.

The effects of the above result in net expenditure budget of $134,988,731.

This net excludes moneys spent to be absorbed from Compact Impact reimbursements and transfer of eligible expenditures into non-general fund sources amounting to $2.3 million and $4.87 million, respectively.

The net operating budget for appropriation is $127.806 million.

Earmarks

Revenue transfers to earmarked funds, which include cancer, hotel tax, tobacco funds, and special accounts to the senatorial districts, among others, amount to $34.197 million.

The 2007A Refunding bond payments and 2007B refunding bond payment amounts to $5.148 million and $3.27 million, respectively, while $33 million goes to the service of debt for the settlement fund agreement.

Together, these total $75.62 million.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

MAN

From Page 1

Friday afternoon, Kennedy granted assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe's motion for a detention hearing.

Kennedy set the detention hearing for May 4 at 9am and the preliminary hearing for May 15.

Attorney Mark B. Hanson was appointed as counsel for Yang.

According to FBI special agent Haejun Park in his affidavit, Yang arrived on Saipan onboard Asiana Airlines Flight No. 625 from Hong Kong via Incheon, Korea on Thursday early morning.

Park said during immigration processing by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Yang acted suspiciously so he was required to undergo additional screening.

Park said during this additional screening, ATM skimming devices were found inside his luggage.

Park said ATM skimming device is a device typically fastened over the top of the factory installed card reader.

Together with a small hidden camera, this device is used by criminals to capture the data from the magnetic stripe on the back of an ATM card ("access device") as well as the customer's inputted personal identification number (PIN).

The captured data is later transferred onto a fraudulent ATM card and the captured PIN is used to withdraw money from the account.

Park said Yang acknowledged that he received the devices in China from his friend, who instructed him to just bring them to Saipan and that the friend would follow him.

Park said recognizing the appearance of the seized green-colored card readers, he went to Bank of Guam in Garapan and confirmed the illegal card readers were an exact match with the factory-installed card readers present on the bank's ATM machines.

While being detained and after all other passengers had departed the airport, CBP officers noticed an Asian male waiting in the passenger arrival area outside the terminal.

CBP officers approached the man who stated he was waiting for a passenger. The man, who produced a CNMI driver's license, refused to provide the passenger's name.

About 20 minutes later, CBP officers noticed the same man once again in the passenger arrival area. When CBP officers approached him, he immediately left the area.

Park said during his interview, Yang disclosed that his friend in China made reservations for him at the Holiday Hotel.

Park said in his consent search of Yang's belongings he found an iPhone 6, in which in the phone's chat history, messages between Yang and his friend in China were discovered.

Park said the messages include the friend giving detailed instructions about traveling to Saipan and what to do upon arrival.

Park inspected the devices and determined that they consisted of two green-colored card readers and six grey-colored plastic panels with pinhole cameras secreted inside.

Park said Bank of Guam vice president and CNMI regional manager Marcie Tomokane confirmed that BOG was not expecting any service to be performed on any of its ATM machines on Saipan and added that such device was performed by technicians from the U.S. mainland.

Park leads the FBI's investigation into the skimming devices that were discovered earlier last April on two ATM machines at First Hawaiian Bank in Oleai.

Last April 9, the FBI released 10 photos of individuals wanted by the FBI for questioning in connection to the recent electronic thefts from First Hawaiian Bank accounts held by Saipan residents.

FHB stated that card skimming through their ATMs was believed to be the cause of the unauthorized transactions made in various FHB accounts.

NMC Palau club asks community to donate water

The Northern Marianas College's Palauan Club is asking the community to donate cases of water that would be sent to their home country, which is currently experiencing a shortage of drinking water due to extensive drought.

Republic of Palau President Tommy Remengasau Jr. has already declared a state of emergency because of the water crisis with the government also scheduling water service to the more than 20,000 residents living and working on the island nation.

NMC-PC held a water donation drive last Friday at the Kilili Pavilion and will have two more, on May 6 and May 14, before they ship the cases of drinking water to Palau, said club president Dominic Hideo.

"We are targeting to get a minimum of 1,000 cases of bottled water, in any size. People have been coming and we expect more next Friday and on May 14. We also put up a Facebook page to further spread awareness of our country's situation," said Hideo.

He added that water service had been limited to two hours a day especially in Koror state that has a population of close to 12,000. The water service was increased to four hours, from 5am to 9am.

"A civic action team is also in Palau, using reverse osmosis to help solve the water shortage. Water supply is very limited especially in the other islands."

Hideo said they could also pick up cases of water from people or groups that want to donate if they have problems in transporting it. Palauans studying at the University of Guam also held another water drive.

"Now, we're looking for a way to send it to Palau after the last day. Hopefully, we could have it sent for free or get a discount." ***(Jon Perez)***

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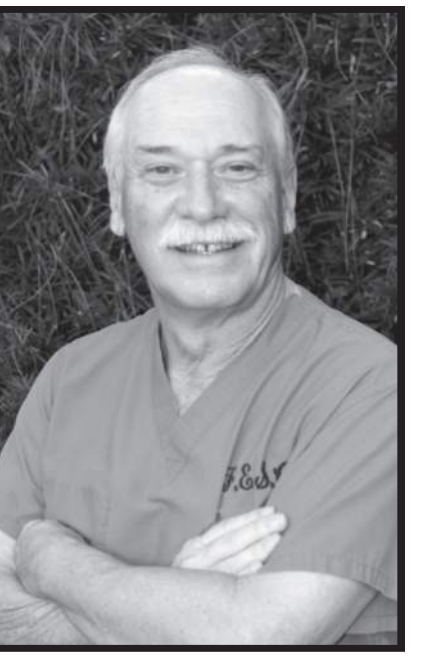

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Honda Accord Sport retail price $29,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of $475.15 or $219.30 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $28,509.00.
Honda HR-V LX retail price $25,495.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of $403.87 or $186.40 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $24,232.20.
Honda Pilot EX retail price $44,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 72 monthly payments of $613.70 or $274.13 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $42,765.60.

Kennedy orders lawyer to give info on Hillbroom arrest

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The federal court has ordered one of the lawyers for Junior Larry Hillbroom to submit information in court regarding his criminal case in the Republic of Palau.

At a telephonic status conference last week, U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy asked attorney David Bigelow to file by May 18, 2016, a report that will provide information regarding Hillbroom's release conditions and trial date in the Palau case.

Kennedy set another telephonic status conference for May 18, 2016, at 9am pertaining to his pending lawsuit against his former lawyers David J. Lujan and Barry Israel.

Hillbroom, one of the four DNA-proven children of the late business tycoon and DHL co-founder Larry Lee Hillblom, was recaptured hours after he allegedly escaped from police custody last Feb. 19, just a few days after he was arrested over the seizure of $160,000 worth of 160 grams of methamphetamine or "ice."

Hillbroom, 31, was recaptured after he allegedly dove into the water and tried to swim when police tracked a vehicle at a dock in a town called Meyuns Hamlet in Palau before, according to news reports.

At the status conference last week in Hillbroom's lawsuit in federal court, attorneys Bigelow, Philip McDermott and Mark Hanson appeared on behalf of Hillbroom.

Attorneys Theodore Frank and Victorino Torres appeared on behalf of Israel. Lujan and former Hillbroom trustee Keith Waibel appeared for themselves.

According to the minutes of the status conference, Bigelow provided the court with updates on the status of Hillbroom's pending case in Palau.

Frank stated that he had many issues with the declaration filed by Bigelow.

Kennedy asked counsel to focus on the upcoming deadlines and stated that the discovery deadline was May 5, 2016.

Bigelow said the parties were hopeful depositions would be completed in June and this was an informal agreement with the parties.

Bigelow said with the new trial date, there are no currently set deadlines such as expert reports or dispositive motions.

Kennedy ordered the parties to submit a proposed case management scheduling order by May 11, 2016.

Hillbroom was first served with an arrest warrant for trafficking controlled substance charge when he arrived in Palau from Manila last Feb. 17, according to a press release by Palau's Ministry of Justice.

Combined efforts of the Bureau of Public Safety, the Division of Customs, and the Belau Drug Enforcement Task Force led to Hillbroom's arrest at the Palau International Airport.

The arrest of Hillbroom came after two women who arrived from Manila last Feb. 12 were allegedly found concealing 160 grams of "ice."

Further investigation indicated that Hillbroom was the alleged supplier of the seized "ice."

According to court papers, the two women claimed that Hillbroom "offered to pay them when they arrived in Palau."

Hillbroom was taken before a court on Feb. 19 and a bail of $500,000 (RM 2.1 million) surety or $250,000 cash bond was imposed.

On Feb. 20, Hillbroom was allegedly talking to a visitor inside the Division of Corrections when he escaped by running out the front door and jumping into the passenger side of a pick-up truck that was parked outside the Koror jail.

The driver of the truck was arrested that same day.

Hillbroom's mother, Kaelani Kinney, is Palauan. Hillbroom is based in the U.S. mainland, but has been staying in Palau in recent months, according to news reports in Palau.

Lujan was the lead counsel in Hillbroom's successful legal battle in CNMI Supreme Court to claim part of Hillblom's multi-million estate.

Hillbroom's name is spelled differently from DHL co-founder Larry Hillblom.

Hillbroom has filed a legal malpractice lawsuit against Lujan and Israel in federal court.

Hillbroom is suing the two lawyers for allegedly conspiring with former trustee Waibel to inflate the attorney's contingency fee when Hillblom's fortune was still undergoing probate proceedings in Superior Court.

Hillblom, founder of DHL Express, died in a plane crash off Anatahan waters in 1995. His body was never recovered.

Approximately $100 million in assets were distributed to Hillbroom in the settlement of the probate case for Hillblom estate.

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Offer ends on April 29, 2016 or while supply of Payless Corporation $2 discount coupons and Mobil $2 fuel discount coupons last, whichever occurs first. Payless Corporation $2 discount coupon is redeemable only with Mobil fuel receipt attached from April 29 until September 23, 2016. Purchases for alcoholic beverages and tobacco products are not eligible for this promotion. Payless Corporation wholesale customers are not eligible to participate in this promotion. Not valid with any other Payless Corporation promotion. Mobil $2 fuel discount coupon is redeemable from April 29 until September 23, 2016 with a minimum of $25 fuel purchase. Fleet card and non-fuel purchases are not eligible for this promotion. See detailed terms and conditions at participating Saipan Mobil service stations or call our toll-free hotline at 1-866-486-7751 Monday through Friday from 10am to 7pm for more details.
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PUBLIC NOTICE

I, LILIA P. LIZAMA, would like to notify the general public that I am no longer affiliated with MARY'S SECURITY SERVICES, INC. with mailing Address: P.O. Box 504691 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 as of January 28, 2016.

Any transactions entered into by this company does not involve me anymore from the date of my resignation.

Thank you!

Saipan Tribune
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INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-CCC-113
SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: MAY 24, 2016 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.
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COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.
THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.
/S/ EDWARD C. DELEON GUERRERO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR OF P&S

Somber mood as Tinian commemorates San Jose Fiesta

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

SAN JOSE, Tinian—Tinian residents and guests celebrated the feast of St. Joseph The Worker yesterday with a not so festive atmosphere with the closure of one of the island's major employers—the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino.

Life, however, must go on for the more than 3,000 residents living and working in Saipan's neighboring island. Tinian and the uninhabited island of Agrihan comprise the Municipality of Tinian.

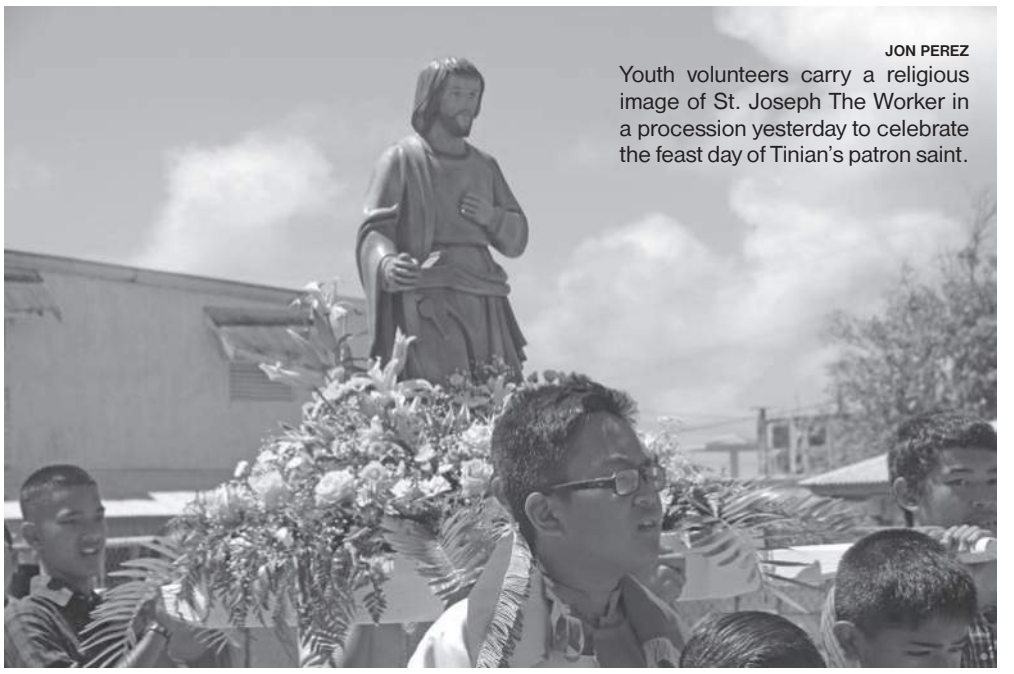
And Sunday seemed to be just any other day. After the 9am mass, a crowd close to 100 followed the religious image of St. Joseph—carried by four men—for a procession around the parish church.

A brunch was held where members of the community brought their specialty dishes to share it to all the parishioners and guests.

The usual festivities also took place last Saturday at Kammer Beach where dances by various youth groups and the Nepalese community and local singers entertained the crowd that trooped the fiesta grounds.

Booths that sell various items like clothes, toys, novelty items, food, and drinks were scattered around the grounds, while an inflatable slide and castle kept the kids busy.

Neng's Snack was named the best booth in the competition with E.J. Chill & Grill and Queen's Restaurant coming in second and third, respectively. They won $300, $200, and $100 each. However, it was not so festive compared to this year's Pika Festival.



JON PEREZ
Youth volunteers carry a religious image of St. Joseph The Worker in a procession yesterday to celebrate the feast day of Tinian's patron saint.

A bicycle race—the 4th Tour de Tinian—tennis and basketball tournaments and a fishing derby was also held as additional events.

Saipan's Nap Dizon won his third Tour de Tinian men's open division title, while it was the second straight for Tinian's Kimberly King-Hinds. Youngster Kenji Matias, who is 16 years old, was the top winner among the Tinian bets beating Charlie Cabreros and Norlo Jacosalem.

The crew of *Bunita* became the big winner of the fishing derby after hauling a 150-lb billfish. *Carmelita* came in second with a 104.5-lb catch, while *Luka & Ben's* catch weighed 90.2 lbs. *Princess Lee*, however, had a 1-2-3 finish in the other categories.

Princess Lee was the lone entry that went back with a yellowfin tipping the scales at 10.5 lbs then placed second in the mahi at 22.1 lbs behind the 23.4 lbs of *Fiona*. *Don't Say Bad Words* came in third at 20.3 lbs.

Princess Lee also came in third in the skipkjack category at 9.3 lbs behind the 11.29 lbs of *Bottoms Up* and *Carmelita*'s 9.39 lbs. St. Jude (25.49 lbs), *D.J. Fish* (23.3 lbs), and *Amazing Grace* (21.49 lbs) were the top three in the wahoo category.

Security guard arrested for domestic violence

A security guard was arrested for allegedly beating up his pregnant girlfriend during their argument at his residence in Dandan last week.

John Sanchez Cabrera Jr., 30, a security guard/officer of Best Sunshine International, Ltd., was taken to Superior Court last week on charges of assault and battery and disturbing the peace.

Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio allowed Cabrera to post $300 cash and $2,700 in unsecured bond.

Preliminary hearing will be on May 9 at 9am.

Assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas appeared for the government. Chief public defender Douglas Hartig was appointed as counsel for Cabrera.

Police Detective Catherine B. Pangelinan stated in her report that last Tuesday a police officer responded to a house in Dandan, where a domestic violence was reported.

Pangelinan said when the officer arrived at the house, the victim, who is four months pregnant, was crying and tightly hugging her 2-year-old baby.

The victim suffered a big lump on the forehead and had red marks and scratches on the left side of face down to the left neck. She also had scratches on the back of her arm, police said.

Pangelinan said police arrested Cabrera that same day after he admitted hitting his girlfriend.

Police investigation showed that the two had an argument when their baby was crying. When the victim told Cabrera she wanted to move back to her mother in Guam, he got angry.

Cabrera allegedly threw her to the floor and repeatedly slapped her.

Cabrera's mother told police that Cabrera was cooking in the kitchen when their baby cried.

The girlfriend, who was in the bedroom, came out and took the baby from the kitchen. The girlfriend slammed the door and there was banging in the bedroom.

Cabrera checked the room but the girlfriend refused to open the door.

The mother said Cabrera kicked the door open and threw his girlfriend to the floor and repeatedly hit her on the face. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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Entries must be submitted to the NMTI Office
in Lower Base from Monday thru Friday 8-5:00pm
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Winners will be announced on Monday, June 6, 2016.

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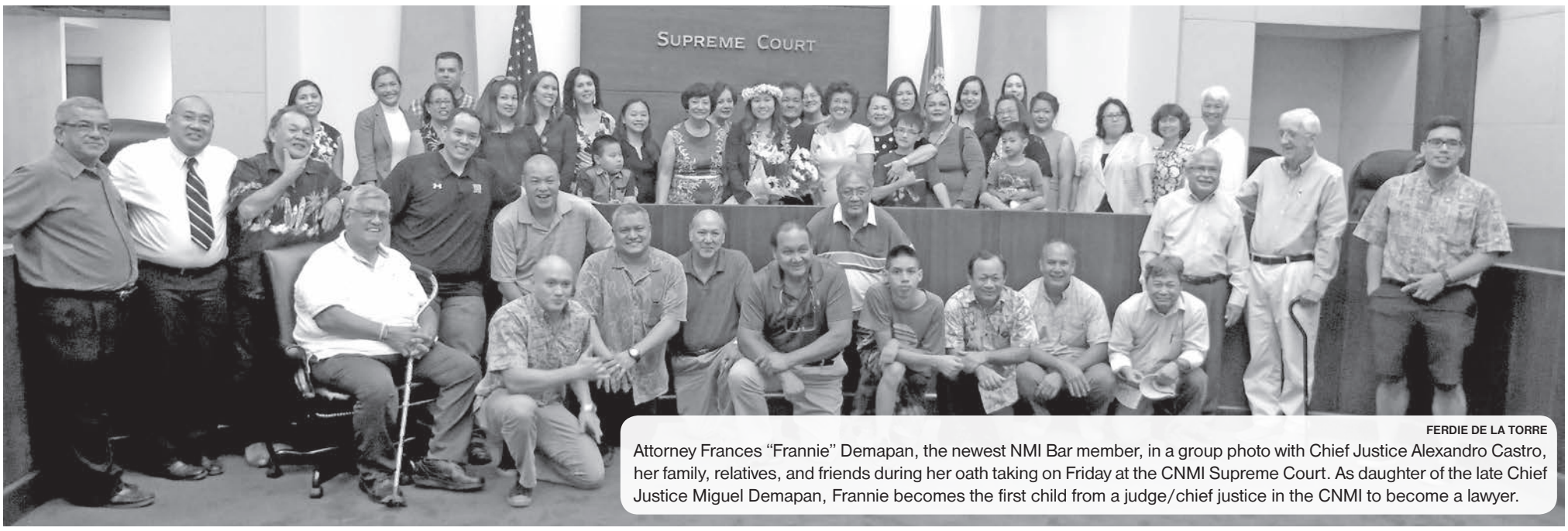

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Attorney Frances "Frannie" Demapan, the newest NMI Bar member, in a group photo with Chief Justice Alexandro Castro, her family, relatives, and friends during her oath taking on Friday at the CNMI Supreme Court. As daughter of the late Chief Justice Miguel Demapan, Frannie becomes the first child from a judge/chief justice in the CNMI to become a lawyer.

Late chief justice's daughter is newest NMI Bar member

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Frances "Frannie" Demapan took her oath as the newest NMI Bar member on Friday at the CNMI Supreme Court, where her late father Miguel Demapan served as chief justice.

"I'm done with my education. Mom, I'll come back here to take care of you," the tearful Frances Demapan told her mother, Francesca Tenorio Demapan, in her emotional speech.

Chief Justice Alexandro Castro administered the attorney's oath for Demapan during the ceremony attended by her family, relatives, and friends.

Demapan, 27, is the first child from a judge/chief justice in the CNMI to become a lawyer.

Demapan said her parents encouraged her to keep fighting and keep pushing.

She remembered that two months after her father passed away, she went to law school.

Demapan thanked the CNMI Judiciary particularly Castro because she feels that she is the product of their outreach program.

Demapan acknowledged she is a second generation of local lawyers or the "second wave" of local lawyers.

Demapan finished law school in May last year at the University of Hawaii at Manoa William S. Richardson School of Law.

She took and passed the Bar in Hawaii in November 2015. She took the CNMI Bar in February 2015 and passed.

Demapan is currently working at a private law firm in Hawaii. She is planning to come back to the CNMI this August to work in the government.

In an interview, Demapan said the NMI Bar examination was a little bit more difficult because it's all handwritten.

"But I didn't have to do the multiple choice. I only had to do one day of exam instead of two days," she said.

Demapan said she couldn't do the traditional path of going straight to law school because after college she worked for two years.

She said she needed that two years to kind of grow up and realize what she really wanted.

Demapan worked as language arts teacher at Kagman High School in 2010 to 2011. She then worked as marketing manager/buyer at J.C. Tenorio Enterprises in 2011 to 2012.

Demapan said she applied for law school and then focused on it.

Demapan's mother is very happy and proud of her.

"She's decided to come home. It's always been my dream for her to come home and then eventually kind of help out with the growth of the CNMI," Frances Demapan said.

She said it is just so nice for these young attorneys to come home and serve.

Frannie Demapan finished kindergarten to 8th grade at Saipan Community Church. She continued her studies at Punahou School in Hawaii and at New York University. She obtained Juris Doctorate Degree in 2015 at the University of Hawaii at Manoa William S. Richardson School of Law.

Demapan served as staff editor/managing editor for Asian-Pacific Law and Policy Journal from 2013 to 2015.

Zoning announces its Public Outreach schedule

The Zoning Office will be conducting its 7th annual Public Outreach and Education Awareness meetings at specified locations around the island with community members, businesses, developers, property-owners, or any interested members of the general public, with the first meeting to be held at the Multipurpose tomorrow at 6pm. These meetings serve to educate the public about the Zoning Law of 2013 and the Official Zoning maps, as well as to engage them in discussions to assist with the Zoning Board's next update of the island's Zoning Law.

The following schedule includes the first three meetings in May, and will be followed by further announcement on upcoming schedules within targeted villages.

DATE	PLACE	TIME
May 3, 2016, Tuesday	Multipurpose Center, Susupe	6pm
May 5, 2016, Thursday	GTC School cafeteria, San Roque	6pm
May 10, 2016, Tuesday	Multipurpose Center, Susupe	6pm

The Zoning Board and Office encourage the public to join the meetings to learn more about the Law.

For more information, please call the Zoning Office at 234-9661/2 or visit the office located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building located in Dandan. ***(PR)***

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 02-2016

Opening date: April 21, 2016 **Closing date: May 6, 2016**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancy:

Position:
(1) Radio Operator/Weather Observer (Rota)
(1) AOA/Ground Maintenance-I (Rota)
(1) Ports Police/ARFF Trainee (Tinian)
(1) AOA/Ground Maintenance-I (Tinian)
(1) Human Resource Specialist (Saipan)
(1) Accounts Clerk-I (Saipan)
(2) ARFF Trainee (Saipan)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10 year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office is no later than ***4:30 p.m., Friday, May 6, 2016.***

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing. For additional information, please contact the Ms. Addy C. Manahane, by email at cpa.acmanahane@gmail.com or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

/s/ MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director

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Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net

INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: TUESDAY, MAY 25, 2016 • TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2016-014

"CLEANING SERVICES FOR NMHC'S CENTRAL OFFICE (SAIPAN)"

Bid packets will be available on Friday, April 29, 2016, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

A **mandatory** pre-bid conference will be held at **9:00 a.m. on May 10, 2016**, at the NMHC Conference Room in Garapan, Saipan, and all interested bidders will be given the opportunity to walk through the proposed project site, familiarize themselves with the required work and ask questions regarding the project. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

For more information, contact Ms. Jocelyn C. Seman, Procurement Officer, at (670) 234-6866/7689 during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ **Edward C. Sablan**
Board Chairman & Contracting Officer

/s/ **Herman S. Sablan, Director**
Division of Procurement & Supply

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INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2016 • TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2016-015

"RENOVATION OF THE SINAPALO BASEBALL FIELD (ROTA)"

Bid packets will be available on Friday, April 29, 2016, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

A **mandatory** pre-bid conference will be held at **10:00 a.m. on May 12, 2016**, at the Rota Mayor's Office Conference in Rota, and all interested bidders will be given the opportunity to walk through the proposed project site, familiarize themselves with the required work and ask questions regarding the project. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob J. Muna, Planner/Environmental Officer at (670) 234-6866/7689 during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ **Edward C. Sablan**
Board Chairman & Contracting Officer

/s/ **Herman S. Sablan, Director**
Division of Procurement & Supply

BIG kicks off 1st CSR event

SAN JOSE, Tinian— Bridge Investment Group kicked off their first Corporate Social Responsibility activity last April 23.

CSR is a corporation's initiatives to assess and take responsibility for the company's effects on environmental and social wellbeing.

BIG employees volunteered their time and services to come together and do something positive for the community.

They water blasted several of the pavilions and repainted the parking area and bollards surrounding the Kammer Beach main pavilion. The project date was intentionally targeted in preparation for the annual San Jose Fiesta celebration. The better visibility of the parking markings and bollards make it much safer and aesthetically pleasing for residents and our visiting tourists.

"I think I speak for everyone to say that it feels great to get together and make a positive impact on the community. The BIG volunteers are excited and looking forward to future projects that are beneficial to our little community," said BIG Wayne Sanchez, HR assistant and CSR coordinator.

BIG employees are very proud of their first CSR project and look forward to continue working as a team and giving back to the community they call home. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bridge Investment Group employees pose for a photo after completing the Corporate Social Responsibility activity for the month of April.

Saipan Tribune Make it your DAILY habit.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 16-024

Opening Date: Monday, May 02, 2016
Closing Date: Friday, May 13, 2016

Trades Assistant

Duties: Under the direct supervision of the Drinking Water & Wastewater Division Manager or his/her designee. Assists with installations, repairs and general maintenance in assigned service area; operates motorized vehicles, equipment machinery, and hand and power tools. Performs routine and preventative maintenance on equipment, vehicles, systems and/or infrastructure; performs basic inspections; and conducts basic troubleshooting of issues. Responds to trouble calls as needed. Prepares job site for work including gathering and setting up materials and supplies, and setting work safety barriers for protection and to direct traffic flow away from work site. Gathers, cleans and returns equipment, materials and supplies used. Cleans and maintains work site after project or repair work is complete. Monitors equipment; takes readings and collects data; documents equipment readings; prepares and submits data and work reports. Performs inventory spot checks to ensure adequate materials and supplies are available for daily maintenance activities. Performing daily well and pump station facility maintenance, cleaning and monitoring; Assisting plumbing and chlorine maintenance crew; Utilizing digging equipment for locating and repairing leaks; Repairing and securing pressure reducer valves, main valves, service lines and laterals, and booster pumps; Assisting with meter installation and repair; Collecting water samples. Must be able to lift objects weighing at 40 lbs. or more. Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

LOCATION : Water Division, **Saipan**, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY : $16,742.00 per annum.
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.
POSITION(S) : Seven (7)

Minimum Requirements: High School Diploma or GED or ABE Program AS. Knowledge of: Customer service principles; Basic mathematical concepts; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology. Skills in: Providing customer service; Reading maps and drawings; Operating heavy and light equipment machinery, hand and power tools required of assigned area; Adhering to safety procedures and safe work practices; Prioritizing tasks and managing time for efficiency; Identifying issues and solving problems; Providing attention to detail; Taking equipment readings and recording data; Maintaining activity logs and reports; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Applicants may be tested. Subject to pre-employment drug test.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

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FOR RENT/SALE

OCEAN VIEW APARTMENT FOR RENT

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  Two units of: 2-bedroom and 1-bathroom house located in Capitol Hill. Ocean view and very private.
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PROFESSIONAL OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

- **Alexander Building:** Professional Office Space for rent located on Beach Road, Oleai close to Court House, with back-up generator, video surveillance, 24 hour water, typhoon/security shutters and adequate parking lot. Approximately 950 square feet.
  Asking: $1,250.00/ mo.

ANAKS OCEAN VIEW CONDOMINIUM UNIT FOR RENT

- **ANAKS Ocean View Condo Unit:** 2-bedroom and 1.5 bathroom. Available on May 1, 2016.
  Asking Price: $1,500.00/ mo.

COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT

- **Garapan Building:** Commercial space for rent on Beach Road located in Garapan, next to TSL Plaza.
  Approximately 1,188 square feet per unit.
  Asking: Ground Floor - $1.50 per sq. ft.
  Second Floor - $1.25 per sq.ft.

HOUSE & LOT FOR SALE

- **San Antonio House:** Nice ocean view concrete house w/ fenced yard, 4-bedrooms and 3-bathroom house located in San Antonio near the church. Ideal for pet lovers.
  894 square meters
  Asking: $180,000.00 negotiable.

VACANT LAND FOR SALE

- **San Roque Lot:** Ideal for investment.32,330 square meters
  Asking: $30.00 per square meter

HOUSE & LOT FOR SALE

- **As Matuis Dream House:** Nice ocean view two-storey concrete house w/ big balcony , 4-bedrooms and 3-bathroom house located in As Matuis.
  1,000 square meters
  Asking: $600,000.00

VACANT LAND FOR SALE

- **Tanapag Beachfront:** Ideal for a small single house.
  308 square meters
  Asking: $35,000.00

HOUSE LOTS FOR SALE

- **Capitol Hill:** Ocean view property located in Capitol Hill,
  5,000 square meters
  Asking: $50.00 per square meter

GUALO RAI PROPERTY

- **Gualo Rai:** Two 929 square meters house lots, great ocean view.
  Asking: $40.00 per square meter

VACANT LAND IN TINIAN

- **Tinian:** Vacant Land in Tinian for sale.
  Lot 114 T14: 4,185 square meters. **Asking:** $57,500.00
  Lot 114 T05: 25,000 square meters. **Asking:** $100,000.00
  Lot 102 T21: 3,643 square meters. **Asking:** $50,000.00

FORD PICK UP FOR SALE

- **Ford:** 1997 Automatic White Pick Up.
  Asking Price: $7,000.00

Alexander

Alexander Realty
P.O. Box 503709, Saipan MP 96950
Tel. #: 234-5117 email: roy.alexander@saipan.com
Visit our website at www.realtysaipan.com

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXVI, Issue No. 86

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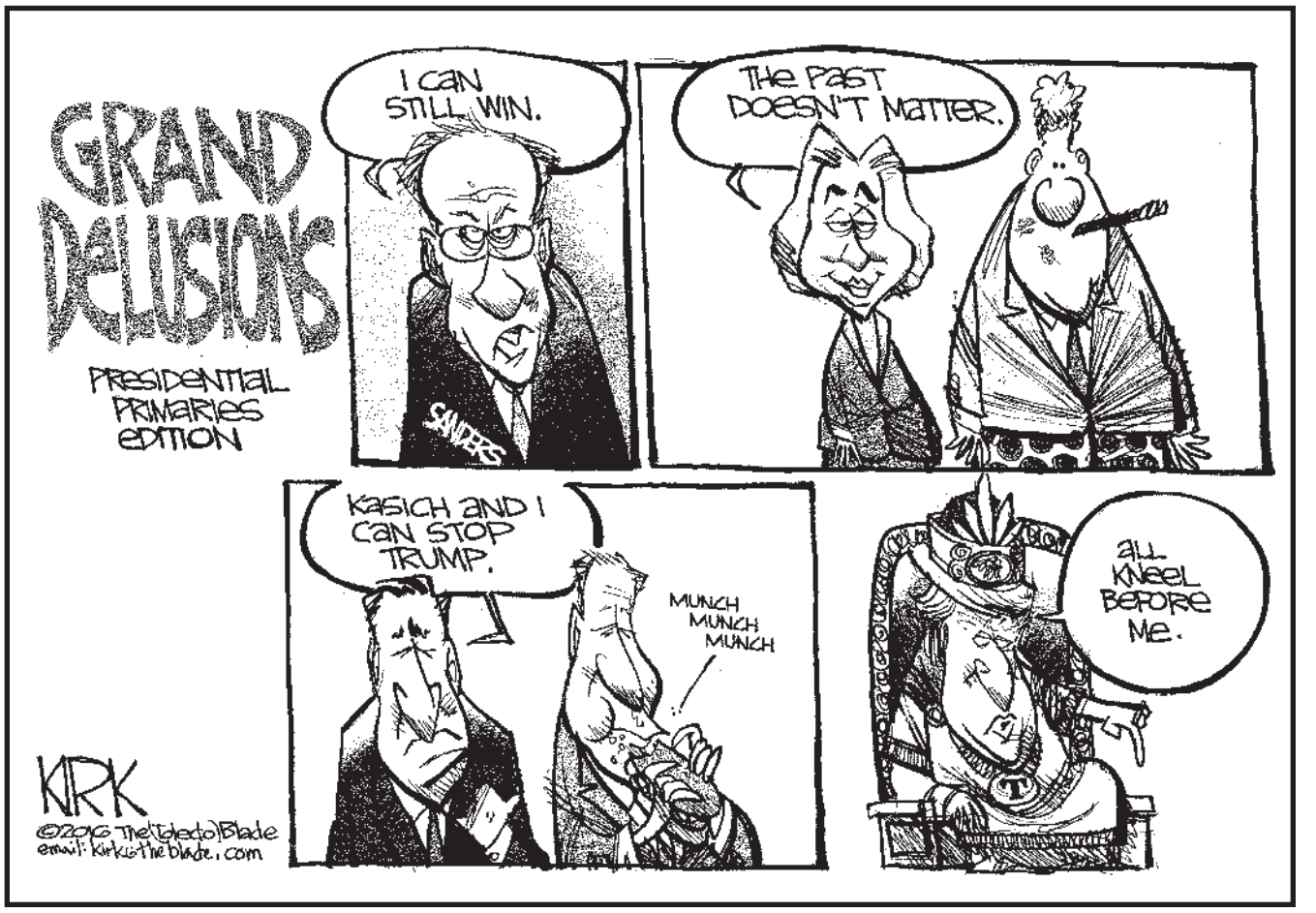

EDITORIAL

Golan heist? With Syria in chaos, Israel makes a bold claim

Israel appears to be in the process of trying to take advantage of the current weakness of Syria to legitimize its seizure and occupation of the Golan Heights in the 1967 war.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu took the occasion of an unprecedented Israeli Cabinet meeting he organized in the Golan April 17 to declare that Israel would "never" give the Syrian territory back. He called it "an integral part of the state of Israel in the new era." The Golan was declared part of Syria in 1946 and was taken by Israeli forces in the Six-Day War of 1967.

There have in the past been recurrent negotiations between the Israeli and Syrian governments regarding the return of the Golan to Syria. In recent years, however, Israel has established some 41 settlements in the part of the Golan it holds, resided in by an estimated 20,000 Israelis and including vineyards and a dozen or so wineries. Genie Energy Ltd. of Newark, N.J., also is looking for oil and natural gas in the Golan.

The U.N. Security Council met April 26 and sharply rejected Israel's claim, reminding the world of Israel's military occupation of the Golan and illegal settlements there. The U.S. did not block the Security Council action. When Saddam Hussein's Iraq attempted to annex Kuwait in 1990, America put together a multinational force and ejected Iraq from the neighboring state.

There has been some suggestion on Israel's part that its occupation of the Golan should be recognized as legal as a form of compensation for the agreement that Security Council members and Germany reached with Iran in June, trading an end to economic sanctions for Iran's suspension of its nuclear arms program. Israel has also suggested that the annual military aid it receives from the U.S. be increased to $5 billion from its current $3 billion as another act of compensation for the Iran accord. Israel's own arms exports amounted to $5.7 billion last year.

The current multiparty war in Syria is certainly reason for Israel to watch carefully the border of the two-thirds of the Golan it holds. At the same time, the current disorder in Syria can in no way serve as a reason to legitimize Israeli occupation there. Resolution of the ultimate fate of the Golan needs to await the end of the war in Syria.

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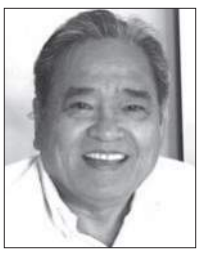
May Day

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

May Day the common workers' day, observed in many communist and socialist countries, skewed by the West for the same reason, though the origin of the commemoration was in the Haymarket incidence in Chicago when workers went on strike, and a clash with the police ensued. May Day is usually the first of the month but observed as a holiday in some places on Monday since the first of May this year is on a Sunday.

On Saipan, we begin this first week of May as the Teachers' Appreciation week, quite embarrassing since teachers get to pass out flyers including an Apple Day in a tropical island that imports them from temperate zones. Yo! Our native apples are of a different kind from the popular Mackintoshes in the PSS lunch trays, in case we have not noticed!

But, taught to ape and mimic Europeans and Americans, our taste buds go the Californy and Hispanic way!

We call our workers CWs. When it was advantageous to label garments with Made in the United States without paying the federally mandated minimum wage since labor was kept domestic and the unions in the U.S. were up in arms, the China-dominated industry flourished and our reputation as a sweat shop went along with the fame.

Off-island professionals are not referred to as CWs though they labor with contracts; CWs are our blue-collar workers though even that color code of the collar is geared toward the temperate zone where dark colors absorb the heat rather than refraction of white, gray, and beige more suitable for the tropics. Ah, words and how they form our perception of things.

Indigenes unfortunately are considered to be government functionaries who seemed trained by the Spaniards to do less for more pay because of status positions leaving many offices often in the able hands of associates with stuffy figure heads. This is not condemnatory, just a statement of observation, and I do not mind being properly corrected.

Meanwhile, the CWs, mostly of the Pinas variety that constitute 70 percent of the Asians who are half of the population, the predominant ethnic group on island also constitute the mass of the CWs. They are, in the famous words of the nation's hero Lolo Pepe Rizal during the Spanish time, a docile group; they seem so still. But they are reliable labor compared to the Pacific Islander counterparts and the other Asians save those from Sinosphere (China, Japan, and Korea).

I am not a racist of the fair skin variety. Our use of ethnic identity only mirrors the demographics reported by the U.S. Census bureau and the popular reputation I hear as occasionally a member of the press and a public school teacher of the lower grades.

Our concern for the moment are the CWs and May Day that will be observed by a few union members who may trace their consciousness to the events of early industrial Europe and America where capital rested on the cheap cost of labor. Post WWII, that ethos moved to Sinosphere who were disciplined enough to aim for the monetary benefit of miniaturizing goods and producing them well but affordably. They are the current target of Saipan's tourist industries, now being egged in the direction of gaming that is a scourge on the habit of not a few in Sinosphere exploited by the casino group.

Most of the CWs are the "docile" Pinas of our acquaintance. They are voracious consumers of Uncle Sam's manufactured good in Sinosphere, now moving to the factories of South, Central, and Southeast Asia. Along with it is the ingrained Aryan superiority carried by the New England and European ethos. To many, it is a status symbol to carry a credit card, usually maxed, which then gives one the reason not only to advance in the employment ranks, but to add a second job, as well.

The racial tone of this morass came one day when an African-American Filipino child was in tears because someone referred to her as "black." I had known long time ago that all humans originated in West Africa and that 97 percent of our DNA are the same, the melanin simple a consequence of weather, and having spent some time in Nigeria of the West African coast, still carrying the luggage of my Hispanic upbringing and Aryan exposure, I can truthfully agree with the adage that "beauty is in the eye of the beholder."

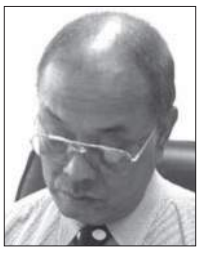
Having also been exposed to the deep South of the U.S. in the Civil Rights days, "black is beautiful" was more than a slogan. It was a lived reality. When I echoed the slogan to my young ward, she beamed with a smile, and when I told my class that I was "black" and I was "beautiful," she beamed some more.

May Day is a day of pride, for the fruits of labor and the equal status of workers in the scheme of human profundity. "Paleface" was a slight insult when I was growing up, but many still consider the fairer of skin as somewhat superior to their darker kin. Wanna know the best selling cosmetic in Sinosphere? Yup, skin whitener! I suppose, to cover up the slight "yellow" tint on the skin.

May Day of CWs in Saipan, a good time to claim the pride of the Malay race!

In search of home at home

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

The birth of several indigenous groups in Guam converging to re-chart reclaiming their destiny as permanent hosts of the island is heartwarming. Their sentiment reflects the deep longing to come home to the very essence of traditional "island way of life."

You have to be Chamorro to understand "home" through an indigenous lens or prism. Otherwise, you'd be struggling to come to terms with it.

Indeed, the emerging debate has wedged the imperialist tradition vs. resistance. The former prefers statehood the latter independence.

The divide borders on a revolution of sort for pro-independence. It is about the self, indigenous hearts, and spirits as permanent hosts of home. Is exterior progress an indelible part in the livelihood of Chamorros or is it a glorification of exogenous investment focused on their quest for profit at the expense of the local people? Is the prostitution of local culture progress in itself? When could this promotional fallacy be rectified so it is reflective of traditional culture?

Growth from without brings home a highly relevant query, e.g., Development for Who? What's the investment share of the indigenous people in the tourism industry? Are they only good for menial jobs? Doesn't this mindset turn them into simple cogs supporting an industry that exploits what they are not? How much in tourism profits actually stay behind and earmarked for the wellbeing of the indigenous people? Shouldn't this investment and expansion best had by making the indigenous people permanent partners? Has this happened and would it ever materialize?

I only saw a brief part of the film, *Guam: American Soil—Chamorro Soul*. The relevant queries raised sufficiently express the longing to find home once more. It isn't physical displacement they wish to recapture as much as island family values tethered to culture and tradition. It's the simple village life with a strong sense of an island community.

It's the massive development that has changed a Way of Life from one of humble village settings to a metropolis. It's dizzying and disorienting and so they buckle down to regrouping and hopefully re-chart for meaningful planning and mapping of destiny.

The huge growth of what an island indigenous writer/advocate called "militourism"—military and tourism expansion—moving in tandem and its displacing effects had islanders asking if this is their future. How much of it should the indigenous people take? Is permanent displacement the prize of progress—for others, its success only defined and seen through the prism of the military and investors? What about the fate and future of the permanent host?

We've come a long ways as part of the greater American community. In the process, we've also learned that imperialism may be hard to overcome but it isn't the final answer either. The future of the indigenous people must come from within employing its prism especially on substantive issues such as their future.

Caveat: Before Guam begins negotiations to resolve its political destiny the indigenous people must insist upon an official apology from both Spain and the U.S. The sale of the island and her people in 1898 is the most egregious and atrocious crime in recent history!

Did you forget that Chamorros are people too? Why the persistent delay by the feds to pay war reparation? Fear of establishing "precedent?" Didn't Uncle Sam resolve the Micronesian War Claims? Isn't this a glaring precedent?

Of "we the people": Villagers came out in opposing a major project around the Pago Bay area in southern Guahan. In no uncertain terms, the simple folks say "No Señor" to a project that would gradually destroy a way of life around the bay. In other words, villagers are satisfied with what they are blessed with strong sense of community.

Human and traffic congestion would have changed normal village conduct beyond the current tranquil setting. How do you explain to the satisfaction of villagers an impending disruption against their way of life? I doubt they'd be willing to sacrifice a lifestyle superficially giftwrapped in the term "progress".

The opposing sentiment is a tale that the triad: planners, developers and investors must begin descending into listening to the "will of the people" in the affected village. What's in it for them beyond a monstrosity that robs them of a humble village life? Is it hard for the triad to see the project from the "prism" of villagers? For once in your lifetime you must learn to listen to the "will of the people." The idea of turning villagers into "cogs" in the project is either riddled with arrogance or ignorance or both!

Moreover, what's in it (project) for villagers? Are they permanent partners (permanent part of the investment) or just cheerleaders as investors repatriate millions of dollars from the use of indigenous land? This is an issue that must never escape the nimble minds of investors and it's just as good a time indigenous landowners to begin dissecting forthwith.

Humility: Investors have come and taken over prime land for their hotels and resorts. Most of the best spots are gone! It included the desecration of ancestral burial site or traditional landing ground of fishermen of yester-years.

This experience reminds me of the song "Waimanalo Blues" (Nanakuli) by Polynesian Brother Henry Kapono. His sentiment alludes to prime beaches sold for hotels "my father and I once knew". The loss of familiar beaches could only be memorialized in an islander's blues with sentimental expression of what was once theirs.

The bold economic ventures may have generated millions, if not, billions at the expense of the degenerative effects it has had on the livelihood of our Polynesian brothers and sisters. I still can't perceive displacement right at home forced upon the combined efforts of U.S. businessmen and the military.

Was it hard settling down to seeking lasting partnership? Do you now understand why the need to probe investment in its current form? How much longer do you wish to sink simply accepting dictates from without?

Trump plays the bully card

By REX HUPPKE
Chicago Tribune

Rex Huppke is a Chicago Tribune *columnist. Readers may send him email at rhuppke@tribpub.com.*

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump and Hall of Fame basketball coach Bob Knight have been touring the fine state of Indiana this week, a veritable Dream Team for men with fragile egos and anger management issues.

The bromance between the insult-hurler and the chair-tosser has grown so strong that Trump, while discussing opponent Ted Cruz's odd decision to announce Carly Fiorina as his running mate, said of Knight: "Look, if I had my choice between Carly and the coach, I'd take the coach every single time. That I can tell you."

There it is, folks. A classic case of Donald Trump playing the bully card.

For those of you unfamiliar with Knight, his success as a college basketball coach is eclipsed only by his boorish behavior as a human being. He was known for profane outbursts, chair abuse, occasional player choking and one incident of throwing a potted plant at an Indiana University secretary, all of which led to his firing in 2000.

His supporters, who are legion and blindly loyal, say he's a man's man who knows how to win. Everyone else sees him for what he is: a bully.

So it's no surprise that Trump, who turns any pulpit into a bully pulpit, has drawn Knight into his orbit.

It's the bully card, plain and simple. If Trump — with a campaign predicated on name-calling and exclusion — wasn't a bully, I don't think he'd get 5 percent of the vote.

Some will say, "Hey, that's bullyist." It's not bullyist, it's true. It's just a very, very true statement. If he was a nonbully, he'd get 5 percent.

So, naturally, every chance Trump gets he's going to play the bully card, and that's why he's now campaigning with Knight. It's a way of saying, "Hey, look at me, I'm a bully and I'm up here with another big bully, so you should vote for men and I'll stand up for bully's rights."

He's pandering to all the voters out there who want to see a bully break the horse's ass ceiling and become president.

Here's what an editorial in the Indianapolis Star said about Trump in advance of next week's Indiana primary vote: "He has sounded off with appalling comments about women and others. He's appealed to voters' worst instincts by trying to pit racial and ethnic groups against one another. He's responded when challenged with reasonable questions from political opponents and from journalists with insults and diatribes that fall far outside the bounds of decent political discourse."

The lamestream media is just helping him lock-in the bully vote with an endorsement like that. Every chair-thrower in the state will support Trump, not because he's a good candidate but because he's a politically incorrect oaf. (Bullies are known to vote with their anger.)

Speaking with Trump at a campaign rally, Knight said Hoosiers who vote for Trump "will be having our government take its first step toward what all of us want America to be like."

With the Knight and Trump sharing a stage like the bully Wonder Twins, I assume that means an America that's a red-faced, hollering, nuke-dropping, Muslim-deporting, women-insulting, good-ol'-days-that-never-were paradise.

You take the bully out of Trump and you're left with a bunch of nonsensical policy ideas and some bad hair.

Oh, and did I mention the shouting? So shrill.

But I suppose if I point that out I'll be labeled bullyist. There's just no fighting back against the bully card.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Wake up corporate America

The time has come to call on Coca-Cola and other sugary beverage producers to account for their past poor practices and lack of corporate social responsibility. The proposed CNMI House Bill 19-99 "sugar tax" on beverages should be actively supported by all.

The public should demand an accounting for corporation's past lack of corporate social responsibility. Local Coca-Cola has failed to acknowledge their corporate role in the decrement of local population's health condition such as diabetes, kidney failure, dental disease, eye disease, and heart disease. This act of omission demonstrates a knowing, continued lack of corporate responsibility by failing to admit their role and acknowledging their product's liability as a direct and/or contributing factor in destroying fifty percent of the health of the local population who suffer from these diseases related to their locally consumed Coca-Cola products. Local governments should compare the value of the taxes received verses the health care costs and hold local Coca-Cola responsible for their part in increased health care costs.

One might ask, what would have happened if the local Coca Cola company had provided/supported educational programs to alert the local public of the known the dangers of their product's over use? If the local Coca-Cola Company has financially supported a kidney and/or diabetes treatment clinic at the local hospital, does one really think that a sugar tax would now be open for legislative discussion? I think not.

Positive corporate social responsibility programs can "inoculate" a corporation against adverse public opinion—seem today in the form of a "sugar-tax" now getting worldwide attention. So, the "pay now" or "pay later" business model is in effect. Directly due for the lack of corporate social responsibility for over 40 years, the local Coca-Cola company now is in the "pay later" phase.

Mr. Marcos Fong CEO of the Coca Cola Beverage Co. (Micronesia), Inc., cannot now reasonably claim as a public defense that taxation does not result in "behavior change" if their own company have failed in their duty to provide such training to change behavior —as part of their corporate social responsibility. Why has the local Coca-Cola Company failed in providing this information to the C.N.M.I. general public in order to demonstrate their positive corporate social responsibility contrary to the parent Coca-Cola Company's CSR policy? They have not provided such training for behavior change. So in my opinion; because of lack of Coke's secret knowledge we suffered from their sugary products use in the past, now—they get what they deserve.

Have we learned nothing from big tobacco, gambling addictions, garment manufacturing, prescription drug addictions, car-manufacturing safety, and alcohol addictions on the negative effects of their consumer products and transparency in their supply chain?

Wake up corporate America! Your consumers are watching you!

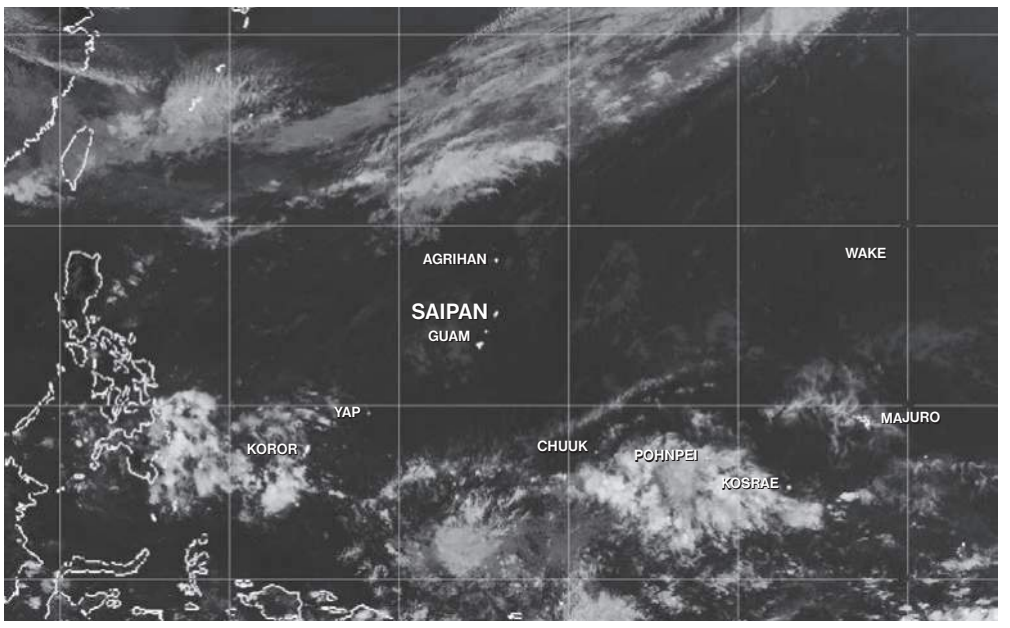
Steven R. Connor
Puerto Rico

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼76°	▲88° ▼76°	▲88° ▼76°	▲88° ▼76°	▲88° ▼76°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front northwest of the Mariana Islands extends southwestward from 25N153E to 19N137E to beyond 130E at 16N northeast of 19N137E. There is cloudiness and scattered showers along and up to 175 miles northwest of the front southwest of 19N137E. There are patchy showers along and up to 50 miles northwest of the front. A trade-wind trough west of Koror is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms in patchy areas across Palau and west of Yap to the west of a line from 4N135E to 10N135E. A trade-wind disturbance far southeast of Koror is causing scattered to numerous showers and a few thunderstorms between the equator and 4N from 142E to 147E farther east. Another trade-wind disturbance is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Chuuk within 50 miles of a line from 5N150E to 5N154E and across Pohnpei state between 3N and 7N from 154E to 161E and just southwest of Kosrae within 70 miles of a line from 5N161E to 4N164E. Trade-wind convergence is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms in patchy areas from south of Majuro to near Tarawa south of a line from 5N170E to 3N180E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲89	▼79
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲92	▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼80
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼81
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼80

Around the Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲72	▼58
Beijing	Showers	▲71	▼54
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲83	▼76
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲85	▼72
London	Showers	▲58	▼41
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼54
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲96	▼78
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲68	▼57
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼76
New York	Rain	▲53	▼49
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲82	▼61
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲65	▼49
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲71	▼59
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲63	▼55
Salem	Sunny	▲83	▼53
San Francisco	Sunny	▲74	▼54
Seoul	Rain	▲80	▼62
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲75	▼62
Washington, DC	Rain	▲69	▼61

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides

Saipan Harbor

4:55 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
11:10 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet
4:25 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
10:57 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:53 AM	6:35 PM
Tuesday	5:53 AM	6:35 PM
Wednesday	5:52 AM	6:35 PM
Thursday	5:52 AM	6:36 PM
Friday	5:51 AM	6:36 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	1:57 AM	2:02 PM
Tuesday	2:45 AM	3:00 PM
Wednesday	3:33 AM	4:00 PM
Thursday	4:22 AM	5:01 PM
Friday	5:13 AM	6:03 PM

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E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 2, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

OZ1077	4:40am	7:10am	Daily
DL297	4:20pm	7:05pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

OZ1157	4:00am	6:40am	1, 4

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2922/193	8:40am	10:35pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA2921/191	1:30pm	8:55am+1	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR
UA2920/191	2:20pm	8:55am+1	2, 6 via GUM
UA2928/191	6:05pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2922/159	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
OZ1078	9:25pm	1:45am+1	Daily

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

OZ1167	9:55pm	2:20am+1	3, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2920	9:45pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM-Rota
UA192/2927	9:45pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2929	9:45pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2920	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	11:30pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2929	11:30pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2921	9:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA116/2920	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA116/2927	9:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2929	9:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-010

TINIAN WATER SYSTEM PRESSURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the installation of pressure reducing stations and installation of 10-in PVC Waterline Project in Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of the installation of approximately 1400 linear feet of 10-inch PVC water line complete with necessary valves and fittings, the relocation and replacement of two existing pressure reducing valves (PRV's), the installation of a new PRV, and several reconfigurations of the existing water system.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **240 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **April 21, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-16-010, Tinian Water System Pressure Improvements Project"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 12, 2016,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on April 22, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Support Assistant – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-012

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF POWER DISTRIBUTION ANNUAL MATERIALS

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the Supply and Delivery of Power Distribution Annual Materials for Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of **$80.00** for one IFB package set.

CUC may award a contract to more than one firm for the materials, based on bids for "Commodity Groups".

One (1) Original Hard Copy must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-16-012, Supply & Delivery of Power Distribution Annual Materials, Saipan, CNMI" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on May 19, 2016,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. *A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to CUC Procurement & Supply Division via email address cucprocurement@cucgov.org or alternately include a CD with the copy of the submission.*

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. All responses to this Invitation for Bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the bidder, awarded a contract.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract(s) is contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission and the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Board of Director's approval. The contract(s) will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 2, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Joseph Crisostimo, CUC Power Division, Purchasing Technician via email joseph.crisostimo@cucgov.org

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-16-007

LEASE OF OFFICE SPACE
(CUC ROTA)

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from individuals or firms for the lease of office space for CUC Administration and Operation in Rota, CNMI.

The proposed office space must conform to American Disabilities Act (ADA), OSHA and CNMI Zoning regulation.

The RFP package may be obtained at the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section (Saipan, Tinian or Rota), by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $20.00 for one RFP package set. The RFP package will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered Proponents email ID. Prospective Proposers for this RFP must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division to be considered.

A pre-proposal conference is scheduled for 2:00 PM (ChST) on April 15, 2016 at the CUC Rota Administration Office in Sinapalo Village, Rota.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC RFP -16-007, Lease of Office Space (CUC Rota)"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 10, 2016.**

Proponents are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Proponent due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Proponent's preparation of a proposal under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible Proponents for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proponents shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers. All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes which will become the obligation of the Proponent awarded a contract.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The Proponent awarded a contract shall comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on April 18, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-16-IFB-007

Repair and Renovation of San Antonio Youth Center

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Repair and Renovation of San Antonio Youth Center,** Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **April 25, 2016** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **May 11, 2016, 9:00 a.m. local time** at the Project Site, located at San Antonio, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **May 13, 2016** to **Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked "**DPW-16-IFB-007**". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, May 27, 2016.** Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, May 27, 2016**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **May 27, 2016** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **June 03, 2016**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, June 06, 2016**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m. local time, May 27, 2016.**

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245.** The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a)A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b)A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Twenty (120)** calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred (US$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ **PETER P. CAMACHO**
Acting Secretary of Public Works

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
Director of Procurement & Supply

Torres, San Nicolas hold joint Cabinet meeting on Tinian

TINIAN—Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog together with Tinian Mayor Joey P. San Nicolas held a joint Cabinet meeting at the Tinian Mayor's Office last Thursday, April 28.

During the joint Cabinet meeting, the governor signed the executive branch's budget submission to be transmitted to the Senate. The signing was witnessed by the governor's Cabinet members and their Tinian RDH counterparts along with San Nicolas.

In addition to the signing of the budget submission from the Governor's Office, Torres' legal counsel provided an update on the agreement relating to the Divert Airfield discussions with the military. Torres emphasized the importance of sitting with San Nicolas and the Tinian Leadership to ensure that a decision on the Divert Airfield protects the interest of the people of Tinian.

Lastly, Torres announced the progression of the .5 Million Water Tank project contract for Tinian. The contract should be fully executed within a week or two. "I want to extend my sincerest appreciation to Governor Torres and Lt. Governor Hocog as well as Virginia Villagomez from OMB and her staff at CIP, the Secretary of Finance and DPW, and all those involved in facilitating the process of getting the water tank project moving forward," said San Nicolas.

The governor, lieutenant governor, and mayor all expressed their appreciation for each of their cabinet members' willingness to work together and support one another to provide better and improved public service to the residents of Saipan and Tinian. The governor's and mayor's Cabinet members were given the opportunity to meet and visit with their respective Tinian offices. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog, Gov. Ralph DLG Toress, and Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas address officials during a joint Cabinet meeting of CNMI and Tinian officials last Thursday at the Tinian Mayor's Office on Tinian.

Law Day declared in the CNMI

The three branches of the government and the CNMI Bar Association jointly signed a proclamation Thursday declaring May 1 as Law Day in the NMI.

Law Day 2016 is commemorated in the CNMI with the 18th High School Mock Trial Competition, the 12th Junior High School Mock Trial, the 32nd Attorney General's Cup Speech Competition, the Sixth Essay and Poster Contest, and the Judges in the Classroom program.

» 6th Annual Essay and Poster Contest winners receive awards

The American Bar Association has identified the 2016 Law Day theme as "Miranda: More than Words."

This year marks the 50th anniversary of a milestone in legal history, the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark 1966 decision in Miranda v. Arizona. The ruling concludes that statements made by a suspect in police custody are generally inadmissible if the suspect has not been made aware of his or her Fifth and Sixth Amendment rights.

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres joined by Senate President Francisco M. Borja (Ind-Tinian) and House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan) signed the proclamation along with Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro. CNMI Bar Association president Lillian A. Tenorio also signed the proclamation during the ceremony at the CNMI Supreme Court.

Associate Justice John A. Manglona led the presentation of awards.

For the essay contest for middle school students, Nehemiah C. Fernandez, an 8th grade at San Antonio Middle School, won the Supreme Court Award; Andrea Roberto, an 8th grade at San Antonio Middle School, received the Chief Justice Award; Maria Lopez, a 7th grade at Dandan Middle School, got the Associate Justice Award; and Codie Escota, a 7th grade at Dandan Middle School, received the Honorable Mention Award.

In the poster contest for elementary school students, Clarize Rodriguez, a 4th grade at Tinian Elementary School, won the Superior Court Award; Maria Karlan A. Claassens, a 6th grade at Grace Christian Academy Rota, grabbed the Presiding Judge Award; Jonathan Torres, a 5th grade at Kagman Elementary School, got the Associate Judge Award; and Jed Sta. Maria, a 6th grade at Grace Christian Academy Rota, received the Honorable Mention Award.

The Golden Gavel Awards were awarded to six persons—Donald Cohen, Bernadita B. Dela Cruz, Galvin S. Deleon Guerrero, Lucia Linda Blanco-Maratita, Joseph L.G. Taijeron Jr., and Robert T. Torres—for over a decade of dedicated service to the CNMI Mock Trial. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

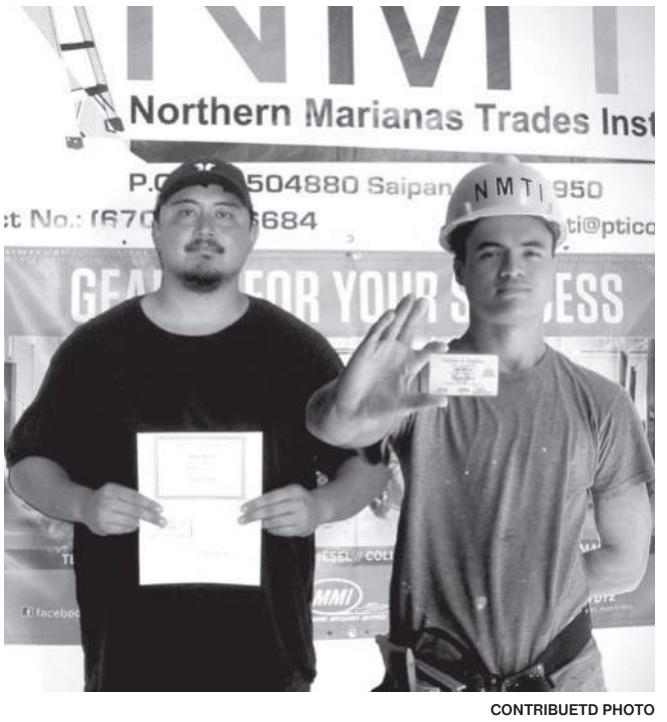
2 NMTI students pass HVAC technician exam

Two local residents have successfully passed their EPA approved Heating Ventilation & Air-conditioning (HVAC) certification exam.

Northern Marianas Trades Institute students Elden I. Dela Cruz and Perry B. Borja were filled with joy when they received the results of the test sponsored by Video General Inc. (VGI) and administered locally by Chong's Corporation. Dela Cruz is now certified as a type I and II technician, while Borja is now a certified universal technician by passing the exam for advanced operators.

By successfully passing their respective tests this makes them the first two NMTI students to successfully complete the EPA-HVAC exams. This nationally recognized exam allows the successful trainee to be able to order and handle sensitive chemicals pertaining to the trade anywhere in the nation.

When asked why they got interested in such a trade? Dela Cruz responded by saying, "I found it to be an interesting career choice as by working in HVAC you are exposed to the various construction trades combined. Because of this exposure, I leaped at the opportunity at taking the test." Mike Vargas, head instructor of NMTI construction trades says, "Their accomplishment speaks volumes as we continue to evolve as a trade school. We hope that other potential students see this as an opportunity to excel as they did. We can only provide the venue for students; they now must be willing to take it to the level they can only dream of."



CONTRIBUETD PHOTO

Northern Marianas Trades Institute students Perry B. Borja, left, and Elden I. Dela Cruz successfully hurdled their EPA approved Heating Ventilation & Air-conditioning (HVAC) certification exam.

NMTI is the only educational entity in the CNMI offering courses in HVAC as part of its curriculum. The curriculum is accredited by the National Center for Construction Education & Research (NCCER) through the licensed sponsorship of the Guam Contractors Association. Ross Manglona, director of Continuing Education & Workforce development says, "the average HVAC technician in 2010 made over $42,000 and the figure keeps climbing today. We are hopeful that as more of our students enter the job market earning competitive wages, our programs will grow to satisfy our students' needs. Having our programs accredited by NCCER is a major carrot as our certificates will pave the way for a better livelihood. As our registration is on an ongoing basis, students can enroll with us for the next cohort through different modules and at their pace, thus making it student focused and we are extremely proud of that." ***(PR)***

Chargualaf calls Vietnam War veterans for meeting

Mac Chargualaf is calling all Vietnam War veterans for a meeting on Friday, May 6, at 6pm at the VFW Post in Beach Road.

This is connection to the upcoming events to recognize all Vietnam War veterans for the July 4 Liberation Day celebration.

He said that the Vietnam War veterans, who will also join the Liberation Day parade, will have a separate tent. The tent will be located across the grandstand where they will stay after the parade.

Chargualaf added a brief and formal ceremony will also be held to give pins to all Vietnam War veterans commemorating their service. "It will be a short ceremony done in a dignified manner."

Vietnam War veterans are those who served or have been deployed from Nov. 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975.

Chargualaf said you still qualify as a veteran even though you were not deployed and just worked in a military base or in the office.

Former Senate president Pete Reyes and Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang are Vietnam War veterans aside from Chargualaf. There are also about 30 more here in the CNMI.

For more information, call Chargualaf at 2851948. ***(Jon Perez)***

Wigsten named 2016 Businesswoman of the Year

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Hyatt Regency Guam general manager Sophia Chu Wigsten is the 2016 First Hawaiian Bank and Guam Business Magazine Businesswoman of the Year.

TUMON, Guam—Sophia Chu Wigsten, general manager of the Hyatt Regency Guam, was presented the Maga'håga award and named the 2016 First Hawaiian Bank and *Guam Business Magazine* Businesswoman of the Year at the 11th Annual Businesswoman of the Year Gala on April 30 at the Hyatt Regency Guam.

Wigsten was selected from seven nominees in this year's program, which recognizes businesswomen who have made significant contributions to their industries and have demonstrated a strong commitment to their community. Her photo is featured on the cover of Guam Business Magazine's May-June issue, which was released at the gala.

Wigsten began her career in the tourism industry in 1992 as a sales manager at the Palace Hotel Guam.Since joining the Hyatt Regency Guam team in 1995 as business development manager, she has risen through the ranks until she was appointed general manager in March 2014. Wigsten is the Hyatt Regency Guam's first female and locally appointed general manager.

A native of Taipei, Taiwan, she graduated from Academy of Our Lady of Guam and went on to earn a bachelor's in business administration from the University of Portland.

She serves as a board member and first vice chairperson of the Guam Hotel & Restaurant Association, and through the Hyatt, she is actively involved in the Guam Chamber of Commerce as well as several Guam Visitors Bureau committees and community organizations, including the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Guam, Guam Cancer Care, the American Red Cross Guam Chapter and the United Service Organizations.

Wigsten is married to John Wigsten, and they have two daughters: Hallie, 14, and Ella, 10.

Proceeds from the gala will fund scholarships for students pursuing business and related degrees at the University of Guam, Guam Community College and Northern Marianas College.

Wigsten joins the previous Businesswoman of the Year Maga'håga award recipients, which are as follows: Joann G. Camacho, director of market development, DFS Guam (2015); Shirley Ann T. Sablan, executive vice president and general manager of Pacifica Insurance Underwriters Inc. (2014); F. Marie Calvo-Monge, chief operating officer and executive producer of Pacific Telestations (2013); Mary P. Rhodes, president of the Guam Hotel & Restaurant Association and president of MARQ Consulting Services (2012); Joyce Q. Crisostomo, executive director of Cars Plus and president of Payless Car Rental (2011); Anna Wang Kao, founder and president of Genghis Khan Furniture Co. (2010); Lorraine S. Okada, president of Okada Managing Consulting Services (2009); Julienne Rose Perez Duenas, physical therapist, owner and clinical director of Sports, Orthopedic and Active Rehabilitation Inc. (2008); Christine Won Pat Baleto, general manager of Market Wholesale Distributors (2007); and Katherine C. Sgro, executive vice president and chairwoman of the board for Pay-Less Markets Inc. (2006).

For more information, contact Joy White, assistant editor of Guam Business Magazine, at (671) 649-0883 ext. 125 or assist_editor@glimpsesofguam.com, or Barbie Jane Agahan, assistant advertising manager of First Hawaiian Bank, at (671) 475-7908 or bagahan@fhb.com. ***(PR)***

BRIAN A. TORRES
P.O. BOX 503138
SAIPAN MP 96950
233-5467 / 285-6455

Pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In The Matter Of	] FCD-AD-
The Adoption Of:	] CIVIL
Nikolas John	] ACTION
Torres Lepinskie Jr.	] NO. 16-0102
Minor Child	]
	] NOTICE OF
By:	] HEARING
Brian Ayuyu Torres	]
Petitioner	]
_____	]

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on May 9, 2016 at 1:30pm in Courtroom 205A, before the Honorable Judge.

Dated this 16th day of March, 2016

/s/ Patrick V. Diaz,
Deputy Clerk of Court

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

CNMI WIC WOMEN • INFANTS • CHILDREN

ANNOUNCEMENT

WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines 2016-2017

On March 18, 2016, a Notice announcing the revised WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines was published in the Federal Register. The adjusted income eligibility guidelines are used by State agencies in determining the income eligibility of persons applying to participate in the WIC Program.

The CNMI WIC Program will be implementing the new guidelines effective May 1, 2016. So please check to see if you now qualify.

To be eligible on the basis of income, applicants' gross income (i.e. before taxes are withheld) must fall at or below 185 percent of the U.S. Poverty Income Guidelines (see below).

WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines

(Effective from May 1, 2016 to April 30, 2017)

48 Contiguous States, D.C., Guam and Territories					
	Annual	Monthly	Twice-Monthly	Bi-Weekly	Weekly
1	$21,978	$1,832	$916	$846	$423
2	29,637	2,470	1,235	1,140	570
3	37,296	3,108	1,554	1,435	718
4	44,955	3,747	1,874	1,730	865
5	52,614	4,385	2,193	2,024	1,012
6	60,273	5,023	2,512	2,319	1,160
7	67,951	5,663	2,832	2,614	1,307
8	75,647	6,304	3,152	2,910	1,455
Each Add'l Member Add	+$7,696	+$642	+$321	+$296	+$148

A person or certain family members who participate in other benefits programs, such as the Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly the Food Stamp Program), or Medicaid automatically meet the income eligibility requirement. For more information, please call the WIC Clinic at 664-4084.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410	Fax: (202) 690-7442; or	Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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Business

Nissan recalls nearly 4 million cars with air bag problems

NEW YORK (AP)—Nearly 4 million Nissan cars are being recalled due to major safety problems where passenger air bags or seat belts could fail in a crash, leading to serious injuries or fatalities.

The two recalls are just the latest in a string of safety problems to hit automakers in the past year with Acura, BMW, Chrysler, Ford, Honda, Lexus, Mazda, Toyota and other manufactures having to recall cars over air bag problems. The Nissan problems are unrelated to the other air bag issues.

Nissan North America, Inc. said that 3.2 million cars may have a problem with a sensor that detects if the front passenger seat is occupied and if that passenger is an adult or a child. Defective sensors might incorrectly think that an adult is a child or classify the seat as empty, thus turning off the air bag.

The recall applies to certain cars of the following models: the 2016-2017 Nissan Maxima, 2013-2016 Nissan Altima, NV200, LEAF and Sentra, 2013-2017 Nissan Pathfinder, 2014-2016 Nissan NV200 Taxi, Infiniti QX60 and Q50, 2014-2017 Nissan Rogue, 2015-2016 Nissan Murano, Chevrolet City Express and 2013 Infiniti JX35 vehicles.

Nissan will notify owners of the problem and offer to fix it for free, however no schedule has yet been provided for when these notices will go out or how quickly the repairs can be made.

Nissan is also recalling another 620,000 of its 2013-2016 Sentras.

In these cars, the air bag sensor has the opposite problem: It isn't shutting off when it should be. The automaker said the front passenger seat belt bracket may become deformed if it is used to secure a child restraint system. That deformed seat bracket might then cause the air bag not to shut off when it should be off.

Nissan has not yet figured out how to fix the problem and is warning owners not to install child restraint systems in the front seats. It will take Nissan more than a month to notify owners of the problem and then the carmaker will follow up with a second letter once it figures out a solution, which will be free.

Exxon sees smallest profit in 16 years, Chevron posts loss

DALLAS (AP)—Motorists are saving billions on cheaper gasoline, but the long slump in oil prices is taking a heavy toll on companies that find and produce crude.

Exxon Mobil posted its smallest quarterly profit in more than 16 years Friday, while Chevron lost $725 million, its worst showing since 2002, and raised the number of jobs it expects to cut this year from 7,000 to 8,000. Other oil companies are expected to report weak earnings in the next few days.

Oil prices have tumbled from their 2014 highs of over $100 a barrel, bottoming out at under $30 in mid-February, because of a worldwide glut. Giant companies like Exxon and major petroleum-producing countries such as Saudi Arabia have continued to pump more from the ground despite the slide in prices.

Forecasters expect U.S. shale producers to cut production, however, which could ease the glut, and prices have been recovering over the past three months. Benchmark U.S. crude is trading at close to $46. Exxon and Chevron stock have gained ground.

"Investors are really focused on where things are heading, and that is higher oil prices," said Brian Youngberg, an analyst with Edward Jones.

Youngberg said companies will aim to avoid the boom-and-bust cycle of the last few years by turning up output more slowly this time—and maybe not until prices are in the $50s. It might take two years or longer, he said, but eventually prices will be high enough to lead U.S. shale operators to boost production.

Exxon Mobil Corp., the world's biggest publicly traded oil company, made a profit of $1.81 billion in the first quarter, down 63 percent from $4.94 billion a year ago. It was Exxon's smallest quarterly profit since a $1.5 billion gain in the third quarter of 1999, according to FactSet figures.

The company lost money in its vaunted exploration and production business despite pumping slightly more oil and gas than a year ago. Profit fell by nearly half in its refining and marketing division. Only the smaller chemicals division made more money than last year.

Revenue at Irving, Texas-based Exxon tumbled 28 percent to $48.71 billion.

Chevron Corp. recorded its second straight losing quarter. Its $725 million loss was a sharp contrast from the first quarter of last year, when it made $2.57 billion. Revenue plunged 32 percent to $23.55 billion.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Gibraltar pushes for airport to be under EU aviation laws

GIBRALTAR (AP)—Gibraltar's authorities have joined air-travel industry leaders in calling for the small British territory on Spain's southwestern tip to be included in the European Union's laws governing European aviation. Joseph Garcia, Gibraltar's Civil Aviation Minister, says Saturday that Gibraltar is legally entitled to inclusion "by virtue of our terms of membership of the European Union." Gibraltar's government maintains that its runway is within the 28-nation EU because it is "a British airport on British territory." Industry leaders have met in Brussels to try and unblock progress toward continentwide adherence to the bloc's Single European Sky legislation. Spain agreed to Gibraltar's inclusion in 2006 but then reneged on this commitment in 2011. Spain ceded sovereignty over Gibraltar to Britain in 1713, but has since persistently sought the territory's return.

China's April manufacturing activity weaker than expected

BEIJING (AP)—China's manufacturing activity was weaker than expected in April, according to a survey by an industry group. The China Federation of Logistics and Purchasing says its purchasing managers' index declined to 50.1 in April from the previous month's 50.2 on a 100-point scale. Numbers above 50 indicate activity is expanding. The federation cited analyst Zhang Liqun as saying that the index fell back but still showed activity expanding. China's economic growth slowed in the first quarter to 6.7 percent, largely in line with expectations, but it's the slowest pace since the global financial crisis.

Nation

Obama out: President takes last shots at official Washington

WASHINGTON (AP)—Even though President Barack Obama and his wife can't wait to get out of the White House, being a lame duck can hurt a guy.

"Last week Prince George showed up to our meeting in his bathrobe," Obama cracked at the White House Correspondents' dinner Saturday night. "That was a slap in the face."

Obama drew plenty of laughs with his barbed remarks to a ballroom filled with journalists, politicians, and movie and television stars. It was his eighth appearance at the event and his last as president.

"If this material works well, I'm going to use it at Goldman Sachs next year," Obama said. "Earn me some serious Tubmans."

The president waxed nostalgic at times. "Eight years ago I said it was time to change the tone of our politics. In hindsight, I clearly should have been more specific."

AP

President Barack Obama concludes his remarks after speaking at the annual White House Correspondents' Association dinner at the Washington Hilton in Washington, Saturday, April 30, 2016.

And he acknowledged that the years had taken their toll. "I'm gray, grizzled ... counting down the days to my death panel."

On the other hand, he pointed out that his approval ratings are up. "The last time I was this high," he said, "I was trying to decide on my major." When he said he couldn't explain the rise in his popularity, two photographs appeared on ballroom screens: Donald Trump and Ted Cruz.

Obama took a few more swipes at the presidential race, noting that "next year at this time someone else will be standing here in this very spot, and it's anyone's guess who she will be."

Trump, Clinton angle for advantage in politics of gender

WASHINGTON (AP)—She has no stamina. She shouts. She's got nothing going for her but being a woman.

Donald Trump, after toying with gender politics off and on during the campaign, is all in on a mission to undercut Hillary Clinton's credentials by syncing up his say-anything campaign strategy with his alpha-male persona.

The same Republican presidential candidate who mocked "little" Marco Rubio, dismissed "low-energy" Jeb Bush and promises to "cherish" and "protect" women as president is dismissing the former senator, secretary of state and first lady as little more than a token female who's playing the "woman's card."

"Frankly, all I'm doing is stating the obvious," Trump insisted, when pressed about whether his latest Clinton take-downs were sexist. "Without the woman's card, Hillary would not even be a viable person to run for city council."

That message may resonate with one subset of the electorate and touch off outrage with another. But for many other voters, Trump's line of attack is simply baffling when America is trying to deal with far more complex matters of gender, such as gay marriage and transgender rights.

"It's a very simplistic notion of gender," said Debbie Walsh, director of the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University. She said Trump is "putting out there a notion of masculinity" that fits with popular images of the presidency. "He is playing the gender card but not connecting it to policy, instead connecting it to his own macho image and his bravado."

Trump's messages about women represent a tangle of views, said Stanley Renshon, a political psychologist at the City University of New York.

ACROSS THE NATION

1 teen killed, 1 hurt after being ejected from carnival ride

EL PASO, Texas (AP)—One teenage girl was killed and another was injured when they were ejected from a whirling ride at an El Paso church carnival. The girls were at a parking lot carnival marking the annual Dia de los Ninos holiday at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church when they were hurled from a spinning ride called "Sizzler" just before 7 p.m. Friday. A 16-year-old girl hit a metal barricade and died a short time later at Del Sol Medical Center. A 15-year-old girl was taken to University Medical Center with injuries not thought to be life-threatening. A third girl who also was on the ride had hooked her arms on a safety bar and was not ejected.

Woman struck, killed by duck boat in downtown Boston

A 29-year-old woman was killed and her passenger was injured after the scooter she was driving was struck by an amphibious sightseeing vehicle in downtown Boston on Saturday. The crash happened around 11:30 a.m. right near public park Boston Common when the vessel, known as a duck boat, collided with the scooter. The woman and her male passenger were taken to Massachusetts General Hospital, where the woman died from her injuries, according to Boston police Officer Rachel McGuire. The passenger suffered non-life threatening injuries, McGuire added. There were about 30 passengers on the duck boat when the crash happened, McGuire said. There were no other injuries.

Asia

Duterte: I've no illegal wealth

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine presidential race front-runner said Friday he has no ill-gotten wealth after a senator alleged that he had more than 200 million pesos ($4.2 million) in a bank account in 2014 that he failed to declare publicly as required by law.

Mayor Rodrigo Duterte of southern Davao city said in a news conference that he authorized his lawyer to go to the bank on Monday to explain to his accuser that he did not commit any wrongdoing. Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV said he was ready to meet Duterte's lawyer at the bank.

The tough-talking Duterte has led voter preference polls ahead of the May 9 elections on a promise to rid the country of crime and corruption within six months if he wins.

Trillanes said earlier this week that the money in the joint bank account, belonging to Duterte and his daughter, was not included in his annual declaration of assets and liabilities in 2014 as required by law, adding that the mayor should explain how he obtained the funds.

Trillanes said he would resign as a senator if his disclosure was wrong.

Duterte's spokesman initially denied there was such a bank account. The mayor, however, acknowledged its existence on Friday but denied he had committed any wrongdoing, although he did not explain where the money came from.

AP

Front-running Presidential candidate Rodrigo Duterte answers questions from the media following his meeting with some politicians who shifted political support to his camp Friday, April 29, 2016 in Manila, Philippines.

China lays out firm conditions for improved ties with Japan

BEIJING (AP)—China laid out firm conditions Saturday for improved ties with Japan, telling Tokyo's visiting foreign minister that there could be "no ambiguity or vacillation" in meeting Beijing's demands over historical interpretation, relations with Taiwan and other key matters.

Beijing portrayed the visit by Fumio Kishida as an act of outreach to an angry China, as the two sides try to repair relations bedeviled by disputes over territory, history and competition for influence in East Asia.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi told Kishida that the ties must be based on "respect for history, adherence to commitment, and on cooperation rather than confrontation."

Relations have gone through "twists and turns in recent years due to reasons best known by Japan," Wang said, adding that China desires "healthy and stable relations" with its neighbor and key economic partner.

Japan needs to "turn its words into deeds," Wang said.

In an elaboration on Wang's comments, the Foreign Ministry quoted him as saying that Japan must adhere to commitments laid down in previous agreements, "face up to and reflect upon the history and follow the one-China policy to the letter," the last part a reference to Beijing's insistence that self-governing Taiwan is Chinese territory.

"No ambiguity or vacillation is allowed when it comes to this important political foundation of the bilateral ties," the ministry quoted Wang as saying.

ASIAN BRIEFS

China ambassador says North Korean proposal merits study

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—China's U.N. ambassador says a North Korea proposal under which Pyongyang would halt its nuclear program if the U.S. and South Korea suspend joint military exercises merits consideration. "I think anything, anything, any proposal, no matter where the proposal comes from, so long it is conducive to a negotiated solution that will contribute to denuclearization to peace and stability on the Korean peninsula should be studied very carefully," Liu Jieyi said Friday. He stressed the need for a multidimensional approach to the North Korea situation and said that sanctions and Security Council resolutions alone would not resolve the issue. He added countries could also work directly with North Koreans to diffuse tensions.

Malaysia deports 32 Taiwanese to China, draws protest

BEIJING (AP)—Taiwanese officials have protested Malaysia's deportation of 32 of the self-ruled island's nationals to China to face wire fraud charges. The deportation follows the sending of nearly four dozen Taiwanese from Kenya to China last month, a case that has raised concerns Beijing is exerting diplomatic pressure over the island it considers its own territory. The Taiwanese Cabinet, in a statement late Saturday, says China pressured Malaysia to deport the Taiwanese wire fraud suspects to the mainland.

Overturned truck carrying stones kills 14 in China

BEIJING (AP)—A roadside activity center in southern China was crushed by stones from an overturned truck, leaving 14 people dead, authorities said Saturday. Friday's accident in the southern province of Guizhou was apparently caused by the failure of the truck's brakes, leading it to flip over and dump its cargo, the central government's State Administration of Work Safety said on its website. The incident occurred on the eve of the three-day May Day holiday, during which millions of Chinese are expected to travel within China and abroad. Traffic police in recent days have been cracking down on overloading, poorly maintained vehicles and drunk driving in an effort to stem the carnage regularly seen on Chinese highways during public holidays.

World

Iraqi protesters pour into Green Zone and storm parliament

BAGHDAD (AP)—Anti-government protesters tore down walls and poured into the Iraqi capital's heavily fortified Green Zone on Saturday, where they stormed parliament in a major escalation of a political crisis that has simmered for months.

Supporters of Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr have been holding demonstrations and sit-ins for months to demand an overhaul of Iraq's corrupt and ineffective political system, but Saturday was the first time they broke into the Green Zone, home to most government ministries and foreign embassies.

Iraqi security forces fired tear gas at one entrance of the zone but appeared to be largely standing down as protesters marched through the area, chanting and waving Iraqi flags. Hundreds were still pouring into the Green Zone as night fell.

Iraq has been mired in a political crisis for months, hindering the government's ability to combat the Islamic State group -- which still controls much of the country's north and west—or address a financial crisis largely caused by the plunge in global oil prices.

Al-Sadr and his supporters want to reform the political system put in place following the U.S.-led invasion in 2003, in which entrenched political blocs representing the country's Shiites, Sunnis and Kurds rely on patronage, resulting in widespread corruption and poor public services.

The major blocs have until now stymied the reform efforts of Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi, who has sought to address the protesters' demands.

Earlier Saturday, al-Sadr repeated accusations that Iraqi politicians are responsible for blocking political reforms. He did not call for an escalation in the protests, but shortly after his remarks, his supporters began scaling the compound's walls. A group of young men then pulled down a section of concrete blast walls to cheers from the crowd of thousands gathered in the streets outside.

The Green Zone has long been the focus of al-Sadr's allegations that the government is detached from the people. The compound is off-limits to the vast majority of Iraqis, as security procedures require multiple checks and specific documentation to enter.

Shortly after the breach, cellphone videos uploaded to social media showed dozens of young men running through the halls of parliament, chanting slogans in support of al-Sadr and calling for the government to disband.

"We are all with you (al-Sadr)," one group of men yelled as they entered the building's main chamber.

Other videos showed a group of young men slapping an Iraqi lawmaker as he attempted to flee the crowd, and protesters mobbing another lawmaker's motorcade inside the Green Zone. The footage appeared authentic and corresponded with AP reporting.

Kenya burns huge pile of ivory tusks to protest poaching

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—Kenya's president set fire Saturday to 105 tons of elephant ivory and more than 1 ton of rhino horn, believed to be the largest stockpile ever destroyed, in a dramatic statement by this East African country against the trade in ivory and products from endangered species.

Uhuru Kenyatta put a flame to the biggest of 11 pyres of ivory tusks and one of rhino horn in a chilly afternoon. Overnight torrential rains had threated to ruin the event but stopped midday leaving a mud field around the piles inside Nairobi National Park.

"A time has come when we must take a stand and the stand is clear ... Kenya is making a statement that for us ivory is worthless unless it is on our elephants," Kenyatta said.

The stacks of tusks represent more than 8,000 elephants and some 343 rhinos slaughtered for their ivory and horns, according to the Kenya Wildlife Service.

Kenya will push for the total ban on trade in ivory at the 17th meeting of the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species to be held in South Africa later this year, said Kenyatta.

The pyres were fueled with about 20,000 liters of jet fuel and oxygen, said Robin Hollister, the event's fire master, as a thick plume of white smoke billowed over the yellow flames consuming the ivory. Hollister earlier said it's not known how long the fire will take because the burning of such a quantity is unprecedented.

Kenya decided to destroy the ivory instead of selling it for an estimated $150 million. Some critics had suggested that the money raised from the ivory sales could be used to develop Kenya and protect wildlife. But Kenyatta said that Kenya wants to make the point that ivory should not have any commercial value.

Others said the burning will not end the killing of elephants because international gangs take advantage of Kenya's porous borders and corruption to continue the illegal trade.

Kenya Wildlife Service chairman and renowned paleoanthropologist and conservationist Richard Leakey said the burning of the ivory should encourage African countries to support a ban in ivory trade. He said a group of countries which is advocating for the sale of ivory in the continent should be ashamed.

Venezuela hikes minimum wage 30 percent amid economic crunch

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Venezuela's president is ordering a 30 percent increase in the minimum wage, the latest move by the socialist government to grapple with high inflation and economic stagnation.

The boost announced Saturday night by President Nicolas Maduro comes after a 25 percent increase on March 1.

The new increase is effective Sunday, which is International Labor Day, and will push the minimum wage to 15,051 bolivars a month. That is about $1,500 at the official exchange rate, but is around $50 at the current black market rate, which largely sets prices of goods for Venezuelans.

Venezuela's oil export-dependent economy shrank 5.7 percent last year, shortages of basic goods multiplied and prices soared. The government has instituted rolling blackouts and state employees are working only two days a week to conserve electricity.

Health & Fitness

Health officials try to raise awareness of high diabetes risk among Asian-Americans

By SOUMYA KARLAMANGLA
LOS ANGELES TIMES

AP
South Asian seniors who have diabetes, from left, Pratap Merchant, Sewa Singh, Dinesh Shah, and Sital Kaur, speak with Shakumtala Chugani, South Asian Network volunteer, and Manjusha (Manju) Kulkarni, executive director of South Asian Network, about eating healthier to stave off diabetes on March 9, 2016 at the Oliver Little Community Center.

LOS ANGELES—The patients filing into Dr. Ronesh Sinha's clinic in Redwood City, Calif., were like nothing he had ever seen.

As a doctor in training, Sinha studied which patients were usually diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes: They were at least middle-aged, ate too much fast food, drank soda and didn't exercise.

The Silicon Valley techies visiting his office were typically slender Asian-Americans in their 30s who worked out regularly and ate healthy meals. But, as Sinha repeatedly found, they either already had or were about to get diabetes.

"It was such a discordance from what I'd learned about in medical school," Sinha said. "Maybe, I thought, this is just an anomaly."

It wasn't. What Sinha noticed a decade ago is now supported by a growing body of scientific research: Asians, in part for genetic reasons, are disproportionately likely to develop diabetes. They get the disease at younger ages and lower weights than others, experts say.

Diabetes, a condition in which blood sugar levels are higher than normal, often remains undiagnosed until it's too late, especially in Asians who haven't historically been considered high-risk. It's the seventh most common cause of death nationwide and can lead to blindness, amputations and strokes.

To prevent the insidious disease from gaining ground among the country's fastest-growing minority group, doctors and health advocates are trying to increase diabetes testing and treatment for Asian-Americans, including Chinese, Indians and Filipinos. Diabetes is largely preventable, experts say — but only if people know they are at risk.

"We began with diabetes is not a big problem in the Asian community" to now thinking "simply being Asian is a risk factor," said Dr. Edward Chow, an internist who has worked in San Francisco's Chinatown since the 1970s.

As Americans put on weight over the last two decades, diabetes rates more than doubled. Scientists have long known that obesity is closely linked to diabetes, but newer research shows the picture is more complicated.

In Los Angeles County, Asian-American adults have the lowest obesity rate of any ethnic group, at 9 percent, compared with 18 percent of whites and 29 percent of Latinos and blacks.

"You would think … Asians would have the lowest diabetes rate," said Dr. Paul Simon, chief science officer with the L.A. County Department of Public Health.

But 10 percent of Asian-Americans in L.A. County are diabetic, compared with 7 percent of whites, despite Asian-Americans' drastically lower obesity levels.

Scientists think the mismatch is because obesity is a measure of weight, not necessarily fat — the real culprit in diabetes.

Asians tend to have less muscle and more fat than Europeans of the same weight and height, studies show. So an Asian who isn't obese or even overweight could have enough fat to be in danger of getting diabetes, a phenomenon sometimes referred to as "skinny-fat."

"We've got to be suspicious even if somebody looks normal," Chow said.

Asians also tend to accumulate more fat around their waists than people of other ethnicities, and abdominal fat is a bigger risk factor for diabetes than fat stored in other places, such as hips or arms.

Alan Owyang, 58, found out he was diabetic 15 years ago, when he was barely overweight.

"I had a little, a very slight gut, but I just thought it was OK," said Owyang, an actor in San Francisco. He's shed some pounds and changed his diet, but still has to take medications to keep the disease under control.

In October, San Francisco, which is 35 percent Asian, passed a resolution expanding diabetes testing to Asian-Americans who aren't considered overweight.

It was a victory for "Screen at 23," a national campaign that aims to lower the diabetes screening guidelines from the current standard of a body mass index of 25 — the traditional cutoff for being overweight — to 23 for Asian-Americans. The effort was launched last year by the National Council of Asian Pacific Islander Physicians and a coalition of diabetes advocates.

Simon in L.A. County — which, like California, is approximately 15 percent Asian — said he was looking into a similar change, and the American Diabetes Association and the World Health Organization have also endorsed lower screening thresholds.

But identifying those at risk is just the beginning of the battle against diabetes, said Scott Chan, program director of the L.A.-based Asian and Pacific Islander Obesity Prevention Alliance. He said that many Asian-Americans are reluctant to believe that they could get diabetes, in part because of what he called a long-standing "model minority" myth when it comes to health.

"You're skinny, you're healthy, there's nothing wrong," he said.

When physicians tell patients to eat less rice to prevent developing diabetes, many of them say "they would rather die," Chan said.

Wendy Kim, 45, had to give up bagels and sushi with white rice after being diagnosed with diabetes more than 10 years ago. Even if she skips the rice that comes with Korean barbecue, the meat marinades contain sugar that she can't gorge on.

"There are people who eat to live and there are people who live to eat. I live to eat," says Kim, who lives in L.A.'s Koreatown. "I'm a foodie, and I can't have noodles."

Studies have shown that more than medication, dieting and exercising greatly reduce people's chances of getting diabetes. But making those lifestyle changes can be especially difficult for Asian-Americans, because healthy eating guidelines have typically been based on traditional American diets.

The dietitian to whom Pratap Merchant of Artesia was referred after he was diagnosed with diabetes couldn't help him much. "She had very little knowledge of vegetarian foods," said Merchant, 82, who was raised in India as a vegetarian.

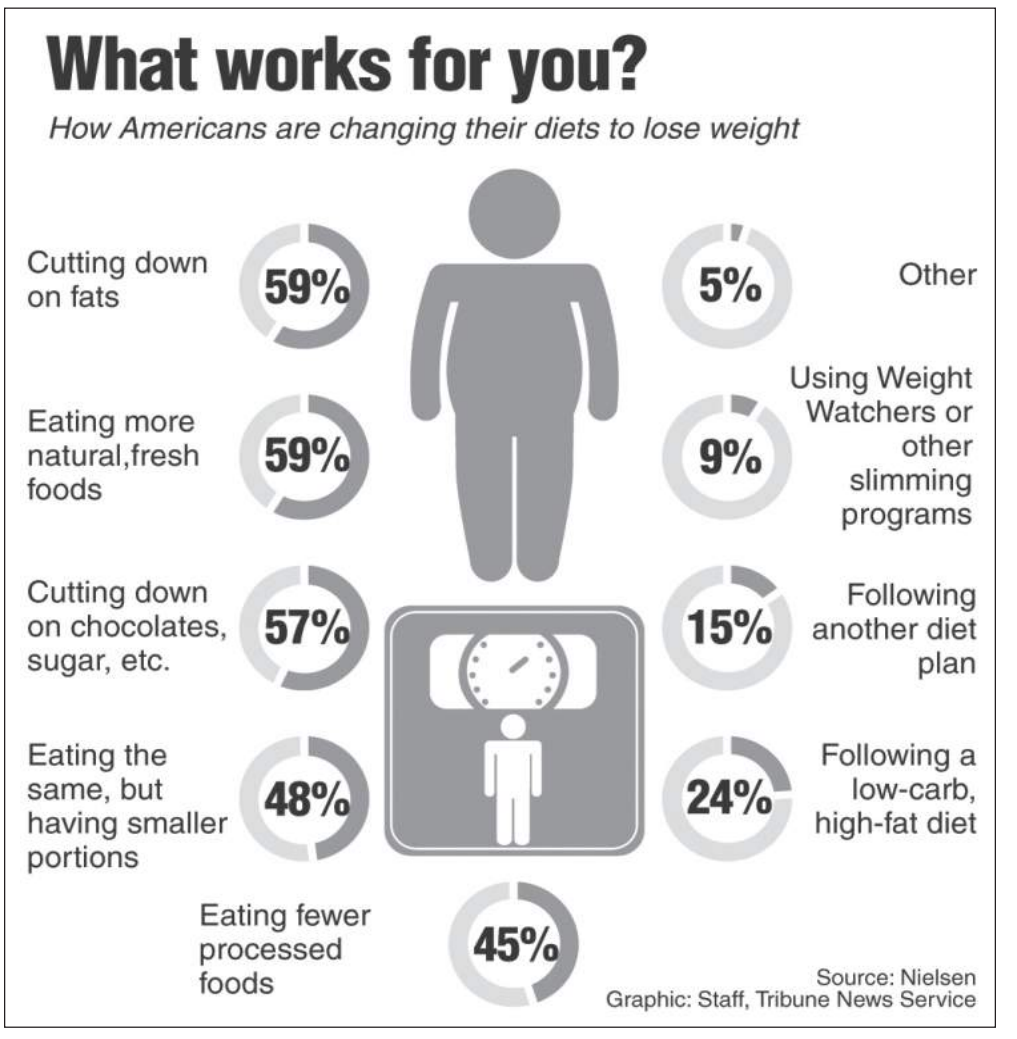
Sinha, the Bay Area doctor, has spent the last several years trying to solve this problem. After diagnosing dozens of Asian-Americans with diabetes, he realized he didn't have appropriate dietary suggestions to help them manage the disease. Telling vegetarians to eat less red meat, for example, wasn't going to work, he said.

Through Sutter Health's Palo Alto Medical Foundation, Sinha launched a consult service in 2011 specifically for South Asians, who have some of the highest diabetes rates among Asians.

Its doctors recommend food modifications such as doubling the amount of vegetables in a curry dish, or switching from white rice to a dish made of cauliflower florets.

Manjusha Kulkarni, head of the nonprofit South Asian Network in Artesia's Little India, also runs food workshops for diabetics and started a walking group to help Asian-American seniors improve their health. But, she said, the first line of defense against diabetes is raising awareness.

She and her colleagues travel from Irvine to Westwood, visiting temples and cultural festivals, warning Asian-Americans that when it comes to diabetes, "we need to be more vigilant than other communities."



Graphic showing what diet methods American's are using to lose weight. TNS

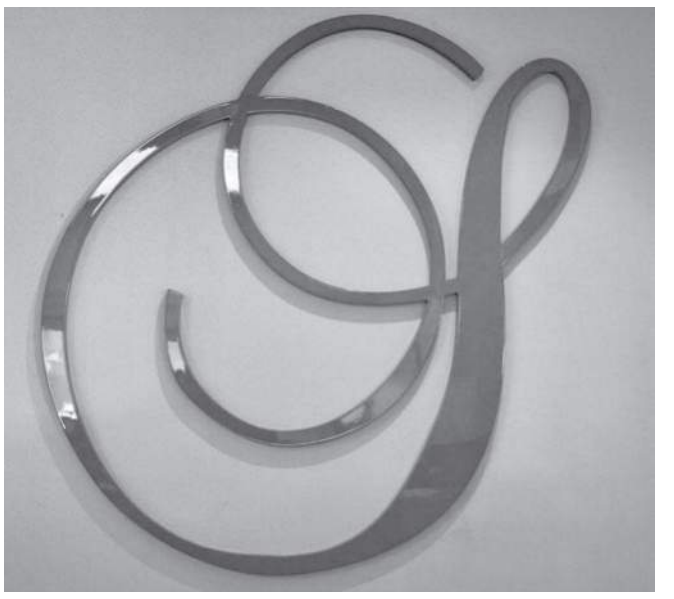
Life & Style

Shirley's Coffee Shop re-opens Garapan branch

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

JON PEREZ

Shirley's Coffee Shop in Garapan underwent a major facelift but the trademark taste and friendly service remains.



JON PEREZ

A simple cursive "S" serves as the popular restaurant's logo.

Shirley's Coffee Shop Garapan, at Century Hotel's ground floor, re-opened last week with its regular customers greeted by a cozier and warmer ambiance, while still enjoying their favorite dishes.

Shirley's Garapan's grand opening was supposed to be on April 25 but they did a soft opening on April 22 because of the strong clamor from their patrons.

The project, part of the hotel's remodeling for a fresher look, lasted for more than a month forcing management to have the Susupe branch—just across Mt. Carmel Cathedral—operating at 24 hours to accommodate its loyal patrons. Shirley's Garapan began its renovation on March 16.

"This is part of Century Hotel general manager Ivan Quichocho's plan to give the hotel a new look. Shirley's is just a lessee here so we became part of the remodeling too," said Shirley's official Puy Macario. "This is just a slight modification."

Macario added that it was Richard Lai, Shirley's executive vice president and son of founder Shirley Lai, who thought of how the store would look like. Sandy Pallon was tapped as the contractor for the project.

"Richard is very much hands on and is part of the plan every step of the way. He wanted to maximize every space available that's why the floor layout is much different from the previous set up," said Macario.

He added Shirley's Garapan now has 30 booth-like seats that can accommodate four people. The long table, located near the Tribe's Bar entrance, remains for big groups and for customers with disabilities. "There are at least 10 to 12 seats added to the store, we maximized the space."

The kitchen, where their cook's whip up your favorite dishes, also became bigger with the utensils and other kitchenware being replaced by stainless steel implements for easy cleaning.

They also put up additional closed circuit television cameras and wireless CCTV's for additional security for the customers.

Shirley's Garapan underwent a major facelift, but what didn't change is the taste of your favorite dishes—from famous Shirley's fried rice and others like the half fried chicken to crispy pata (pork knuckles).

For reservations or to order in advance, call 233-4519 or 233-4520.

'Game of Thrones' actor Crook finds gold with 'Detectorists'

AP

This image released by Acorn TV shows Macenzie Crook, left, and Toby Jones in a scene from "Detectorists." Crook, who starred in "Pirates of the Caribbean," films and "Game of Thrones," writes, directs and stars in this TV series.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—For those in search of buried treasure, Mackenzie Crook is your man.

The British character actor has loaned his memorably weedy, gaunt-faced presence to "Pirates of the Caribbean" movies (as wooden-eyed Ragetti), the original U.K. "The Office" (stickler Gareth) and "Game of Thrones" (the warg Orell).

But it's with "The Detectorists," about men whose passion is digging up the British countryside in search of coins and other ancient treasure, that Crook and viewers really strike gold.

The amiably eccentric—but emotionally direct—comedy series is written and directed by Crook, who plays Andy, a temp worker yearning for archaeological greatness. The estimable Toby Jones ("Infamous," ''Wayward Pines") co-stars as his buddy, Lance, who suffers delusions of smoothness.

The compact, baldish Jones and gawky, shaggy-haired Crook make for a classically mismatched pair. Bonus casting: husky-voiced Rachael Stirling (so good in "The Bletchley Circle," ''Tipping the Velvet") as Becky, Andy's girlfriend and baby mama. Season two earns triple points with Stirling's real-life famed mother, Diana Rigg, aboard as Becky's mom.

"The Detectorists" can be found on the British-centric streaming site Acorn TV. Catch up with season one and then dig into six new masterfully observed chapters on modest lives in a small town, fictional Danebury, home to the Danebury Metal Detecting Club.

The impeccably understated dialogue is both real and, at times, wonderfully surreal. In one scene, Andy and Lance are on the hunt, holding fast to metal detectors and dreams of glory and riches, when a trampoline suddenly goes tumbling past. A motorist soon pulls up alongside them.

"Any of you chaps see a trampoline?" he asks.

Andy: "Went that way."

Driver: "Was there a child in it?"

Andy: "Don't think so.

Lance: "Is that good news?"

Driver: "Potentially."

Crook, who performed his own material as a stand-up comedian before turning into an in-demand actor, had long wanted to write for the screen. But certain Andy-like elements of his personality—a tendency toward "laxness," as he put it—got in the way.

The idea for "Detectorists" was one he'd been nursing for years, as Crook recently discovered when he found an old notebook of his from 1999.

"I've never been a detectorist myself but had seen a couple of these guys on television, and they just come across as very obsessive about their pastime and very protective as well," he said by phone from London. (He lives there with his wife and two children with literature-inspired names, son Jude and daughter Scout.)

His TV glimpse of the enthusiasts got him thinking about how people, specifically men, become enmeshed in a "seemingly dull" hobby. Detecting, for one, is pursued throughout the U.K., a vast burial ground for remnants of its long history.

While Jones and Crook had crossed paths on a half-dozen movies, the pair had never acted together before Crook gave him a draft script for "The Detectorists." Lance was originally intended to be "macho," Crook said, but with Jones aboard he evolved into "a wise man and a gentle character."

Character is what Crook is most interested in exploring, with ordinary people and their inner lives at the series' core. What he's created is extraordinary, although the low-key, self-effacing man who comes across in conversation seems unlikely to label his work as such.

"At the age of 44, I seem to have finally found my discipline, which is quite a relief," Crook said. "I'd like to get more (writing) done if I can keep that momentum up."

He's buoyed by reaction to the show, including high ratings and awards in Britain. It's also been embraced by members of the detecting community, he said, despite initial wariness about how they'd be depicted.

He sees more life in "The Detectorists," with at least another season or perhaps an extended TV movie in mind. That means a return to Framlingham, a historic English village that stood in for Danebury during filming and also lays claim to being Ed Sheeran's hometown.

"He often turns up at the local pub, so we played second-fiddle to the pop star," Crook said.

That may be. But "The Detectorists" is second to none.

Strahan-Ripa breakup isn't TV's first botched transition

NEW YORK (AP)—"Live with Kelly and Michael" host Kelly Ripa emerged from her brief "strike" this past week on stronger footing, having extracted an apology from Walt Disney Co. officials for giving her little advanced word that her co-host Michael Strahan was leaving for "Good Morning America."

She had briefly boycotted the popular daytime talk show, saying she had earned the right to better treatment.

Her audience gave Ripa a standing ovation upon her return Tuesday, and ABC said Strahan was leaving nearly four months earlier than expected.

It was hardly the first time television executives had botched a transition, nor the most spectacular. Here are some other dropped batons:

This June 5, 2003 file photo shows co-hosts, from left, Meredith Vieira, Star Jones, Joy Behar and Barbara Walters on the set of "The View" in New York. AP

THE YOUNGER WOMAN

Jane Pauley had been a mainstay on NBC's "Today" show for 13 years, first as co-host with Tom Brokaw and later with Bryant Gumbel, when the show's executives were seduced by a younger woman.

Deborah Norville, seven years Pauley's junior, lit up the screen on NBC's early-morning newscast. She was reassigned to "Today" in late summer 1989 with a big new contract, given a more prominent role than predecessor John Palmer. Norville was widely viewed as Pauley's successor, certainly to Pauley, who quit before she could be pushed out.

During her last show, on Dec. 29, the New York Daily News wrote that Pauley "often looked like she'd rather have been queued up in a 5-hour rice line in Bucharest." Most unfortunately, the show featured a long report on a horse that had been racing 11 years but had to be retired.

The optics were horrible. Women dominate the morning news audience, and "Today" was serving up their worst nightmare onscreen: a loyal woman approaching middle age pushed aside for a sexy new model. The show's ratings instantly fell behind ABC's "Good Morning America." They didn't recover until Norville left on maternity leave 19 months later and was herself displaced by Katie Couric.

Norville fought depression, then battled back as an author and host of "Inside Edition."

"It was personally devastating to, in less than two years, go from 'NBC's fastest-rising star' to a pariah in television," Norville wrote for The Hollywood Reporter in 2012.

TEAM COCO

If you still have a "Team Coco" shirt in a back closet, you remember late-night television's worst transition.

NBC thought it was being foresighted when it announced in 2004 that five years later, Jay Leno would retire as "Tonight" show host and be replaced by Conan O'Brien.

"I was blindsided," Leno recalled in a later "60 Minutes" interview, likening it to being told by a girlfriend that he was no longer wanted. He didn't feel much better five years later. He vacated the late-night perch, and was given a prime-time show that not many people watched.

Meanwhile, "Tonight" ratings sank when after O'Brien took over and NBC executives worried that the quirky sensibility that worked for O'Brien's later-night show didn't translate to a more mainstream earlier audience. They floated a plan to cut the "Tonight" hour in half, giving part of Leno and part to O'Brien.

O'Brien rejected it early in 2010, and began negotiations for a contract buyout.

With the axe near, O'Brien's "Tonight" show became white hot. Ratings soared, and his persona as the put-upon employee fueled superb comedy. Fans rallied around, buying "Team Coco" shirts, and Leno was brutalized regularly by fellow late-night hosts David Letterman and Jimmy Kimmel as a turncoat, someone who couldn't give up his seat of power. Besides a reported $45 million buyout, O'Brien earned another late-night gig at TBS, where he works today.

Leno's transition to Jimmy Fallon in 2014 went much more smoothly. Fallon was an immediate hit, and Leno gracious in his exit.

Even then, though, he made sure to note that leaving wasn't his decision.

STAR TIME

Star Jones, panelist on daytime TV's "The View," surprised that show's audience in July 2006 by announcing after a commercial break that she would soon be leaving after 10 years.

"That's shocking to me," co-host Joy Behar said. It shouldn't have been. The show's creator, Barbara Walters, said later that Jones had known for months that the show was going in a different direction. Jones said in a magazine interview that appeared that day that she had been fired.

As Jones made her announcement, Walters sat at her side, glaring.

To the proper television doyenne, few things were as important as appearances and the illusion that the ladies of "The View" were a convivial bunch. She told The Associated Press that day that Jones' announcement was a betrayal.

The next day, Jones was gone. Walters said Jones had been given time to find another job so the transition would appear smooth. "I would have loved for Star to have left and not said 'I was fired' and not make it look like the show was somehow being cruel to her," she said.

It was six years before she was welcomed back onto the ABC show as a guest.

Even on a program that featured the colorful and combustible Rosie O'Donnell for two separate tenures, Jones had the most memorable flameout.

CRYING CURRY

Two decades after the Norville debacle, the "Today" show managed to top itself with Ann Curry's tearful exit.

Curry was a loyal soldier, reading the news for "Today" starting in 1997 and remaining after she was passed over for Meredith Vieira as co-host when Couric left in 2005. When Vieira quit in 2011, Curry earned the job next to Matt Lauer. Yet "Today" started fading in the ratings, running neck-and-neck with "Good Morning America" in the spring of 2012 after many years of dominance, and executives worried that Curry and Lauer had little on-screen chemistry.

They decided to replace her with Savannah Guthrie.

Curry's final show made for excruciating television. She was in tears seated next to Lauer on the show's couch, telling viewers: "For all of you who saw me as a groundbreaker, I'm sorry I didn't carry the ball over the finish line. But man, I did try."

Again, the effect was immediate. ABC's "GMA" took over as morning television's favorite and while things have been looking up lately, "Today" remains in second place. Lauer's reputation with viewers took a beating, especially when Curry did little to discourage accounts that she partly blamed him for her demise. After reporting primarily on international stories, Curry left NBC News in January 2015.

"It was a hard time for everybody," Lauer told the Daily Beast in 2013. "I don't think the show or the network handled the transition well. You don't have to be Einstein to know that."

Bed-wetter can get help but he has to make the effort

DEAR ABBY: I have a good friend who is a bed-wetter. It's obvious because he's constantly doing laundry and his home smells bad at times. We once shared a hotel room, and I was awakened in the middle of the night by a strong smell of urine.

He tries to hide his problem, but seems to be doing little if anything to find a solution for it. I want to persuade him to get some help, but I don't feel comfortable saying anything, and I don't want to embarrass him. What can I do?

CONCERNED FRIEND IN MICHIGAN

DEAR CONCERNED FRIEND: What would you want your friend to do if the situation were reversed, and you were the person with the bed-wetting problem? Friends communicate with each other. Talk privately with this person. Say you think there "may" be a problem and urge him to discuss it with a urologist.

There is help for bed-wetters—medications, as well as mechanical devices—that in many cases can fix the problem. But only if the sufferers—and bed-wetters do suffer—know help is available and are willing to ask for it.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I have been dating "Miles" for two years. He will move in with me soon. Miles has two sons from his previous marriage. He loves them and sees them regularly.

I can't help but feel a little jealous because he makes a huge effort to be with his kids as often as possible, entertaining them and taking them to nice restaurants. The issue I have is that Miles and I never go out. We have never been on vacation or had a weekend date. Our dates consist of eating a sandwich or me cooking. Is it normal to feel a little jealous, or should I call him out on it?

AT THE FOOT OF THE LIST

DEAR FOOT OF THE LIST: Miles appears to be a good father, but your feelings are understandable and they should be discussed with Miles BEFORE he moves in. In romantic relationships there is a certain degree of "courtship" that appears to be missing here. And believe me, unless you talk this through, nothing will change because he thinks the status quo is acceptable to you.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My fiance and I are good drivers and enjoy driving. But we get into arguments during road trips about who should drive. He feels he should drive because "he's the man." I feel we should take turns. We both hate being the passenger. Can you give us some good advice?

DRIVING IT HOME IN ARIZONA

DEAR DRIVING IT HOME: Yes. Instead of spoiling your road trip by arguing while you're on the road, have an agreement before you leave about how the driving duties will be shared. Because sitting in the passenger seat can become boring after a while, some couples split their trips into equal shifts. Others agree that one spouse will drive to the destination and the other will drive on the trip home. It has less to do with "who's the man" than with fairness.

■■■

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

SO THE CONTRACTOR SAYS IT WILL COST ABOUT $200 TO FIX.
OH, THAT DUMB KID!
WELL, IT'S ALL PART OF RAISING A CHILD, RIGHT?
MM.
YOU'RE NOT SORRY WE HAD CALVIN, ARE YOU?
ARE YOU?
I ASKED FIRST...BESIDES, IT WASN'T ALL MY DECISION.
ALL I KNOW IS THAT I OFFERED TO BUY US A DACHSHUND, BUT NO, YOU SAID,

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

AFTER A LONG DAY OF DOING NOTHING, IT'S GOOD TO RELAX
ALTHOUGH IT'S HARD TO KNOW WHERE ONE ENDS AND THE OTHER BEGINS
JIM DAVIS 5-2

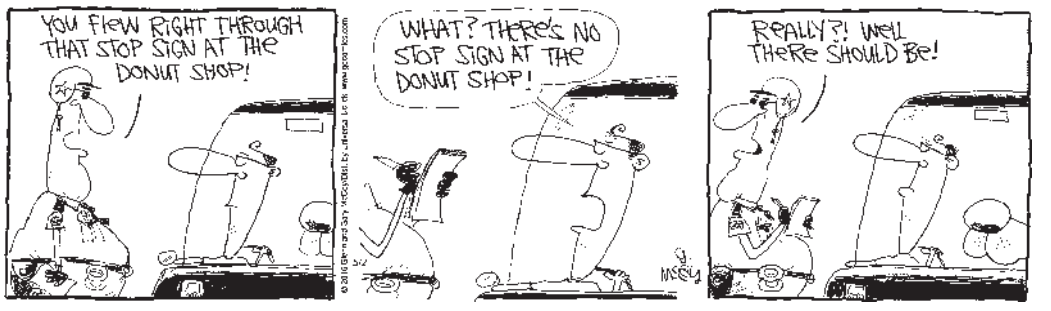
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

NO WORD FROM THE PUBLISHERS?
NO.
WELL, HEY. NO NEWS IS GOOD NEWS, RIGHT?
NO!! NO NEWS IS TORTURE! WHO MADE UP THAT STUPID SAYING?
I'M GONNA GO IN THERE FOR A WHILE.
IS NO FOOD GOOD FOOD?? NO!! IT'S AN EMPTY PLATE!!
5-2

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


YOU FLEW RIGHT THROUGH THAT STOP SIGN AT THE DONUT SHOP!
WHAT? THERE'S NO STOP SIGN AT THE DONUT SHOP!
REALLY?! WELL THERE SHOULD BE!

CROSSWORD

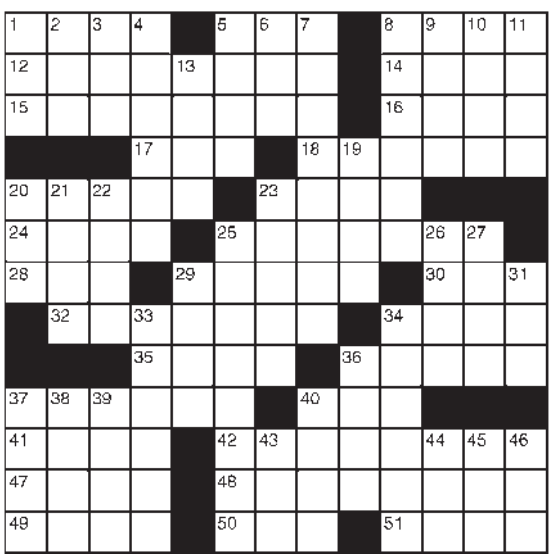
By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Grand tale
5 "For shame!"
8 Dance move
12 Florida city
14 Roof overhang
15 Old joke
16 Blue dye source
17 Glutton
18 Dicker over a price
20 Hypnotized
23 Advertising award
24 Hideaway
25 Sharp cheese
28 "— Miniver"
29 Shoe parts
30 Greyhound vehicle
32 V-shaped badge
34 Pizzazz
35 Simple
36 White or Grable
37 Sacred
40 Standard
41 Scrambled wd.
42 Iroquoian language
47 Pinot —
48 Wimbledon favorites
49 Novelist Rice
50 Observe
51 Get lippy

DOWN
1 Computer key
2 Oom- —
3 Fury
4 Friendly ghost
5 Chinatown gang
6 Trio after R
7 Actress Turner
8 Poseidon or Neptune
9 Tart flavor
10 Satan's forte
11 Soccer legend
13 Swizzle
19 Helps
20 Einstein's birthplace
21 Dealer's foe
22 Platter
23 Daphnis' love
25 Fixes typos
26 Help a hood
27 Oxidation result
29 Swedish man's name
31 Hog haven
33 Asylum seeker, perhaps
34 Round numbers?
36 Taverns
37 Comic Carvey
38 Privy to
39 Futile
40 Le Pew of cartoons
43 Weeding tool
44 Mauna —
45 Mag. staff
46 Curved letter

Solution time: 27 mins.

Friday's answer 5 - 2



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kyle Busch, 31; Ellie Kemper, 34; David Beckham, 41; Dwayne Johnson, 44.

Happy Birthday: Flaunt what you've got to offer. Put a little razzmatazz into your actions and you will draw interest and create opportunities. Travel and expanding your knowledge will pay off and put you in a league of your own. The favors you offer others will ensure that you get the backing you need. Romance will result in good fortune. Your numbers are 5, 12, 20, 26, 31, 33, 47.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Temper your emotions to avoid a misunderstanding. Say "no" if you feel you are being taken for granted. Keep moving in a direction that encourages your success. Compromise more and criticize less. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Be bold and show off what you have to offer. Being consistent and dependable will ensure that you reach your goal. Be open to new ideas and an important partnership or learning experience will result. Romance is encouraged. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Be on your guard when it comes to helping others. You will be put in a compromising position or taken for granted if you are too accommodating. Keep your offers simple and focus on personal change. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Participate in functions that will help you advance your goals. Whether it's finding love or working toward a higher or more interesting position, the results will be stellar. Think big and believe in yourself. Romance is in the stars. ✪✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Try to make positive changes. Get fit or take part in activities that will inspire and motivate you to expand your interests, friendships and prospects for the future. Don't let an unfortunate conversation throw you off your game. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Make travel plans, attend a conference or enroll in a retreat that promises to help you deal with personal issues. Make romance a priority. Someone you respect will offer you good advice. Go out of your way to obtain valuable information. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): A good deal will be offered, but you may need to negotiate. You will discover benefits through the changes you initiate. A disciplined attitude should help you seal any deal that's pending. Good fortune is within your reach. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Do your research and assess your options. A chance to do things differently will spice up your life, encourage romance and give you something to look forward to. Express your thoughts and share your plans. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Problems will arise if you let your emotions take over or are too willing to act on secondhand information. It's OK to bring about change as long as it won't negatively affect others. Find a way to improve your position. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): A walk down memory lane will help you size up what needs to be done to improve your emotional, financial or personal needs. Speak up and you will discover how to work with others to reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Express your ideas. Not everyone will agree with you, but once you identify who is willing to offer support, you will be able to move forward with confidence. Finding greater stability will give you a new lease on life. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Don't leave anything to chance. Look over documents and important papers. Discuss what you want to do with someone you have worked with in the past or have known for a long time. An opportunity will come from inside sources. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are steady, reliable and compassionate. You are open and approachable.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		8			1	3	6	
					4	1		2
6			3				7	4
		7			6		8	9
				5				
2	6		4			7		
8	2				7			3
5		4	9					
	3	1	6			2		

Difficulty Level ★ 5/02

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's SUDOKU Answer

1	4	5	2	9	3	7	6	8
2	6	7	4	1	8	3	5	9
8	9	3	5	6	7	4	1	2
3	7	9	6	4	2	5	8	1
6	1	2	8	3	5	9	4	7
5	8	4	9	7	1	2	3	6
4	3	6	7	8	9	1	2	5
7	5	8	1	2	4	6	9	3
9	2	1	3	5	6	8	7	4

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 4/25

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

GRAND JURIES Solution: 8 letters

A	M	E	N	D	M	E	N	T	C	E	P	S	U	S
H	C	A	E	R	C	R	I	M	I	N	A	L	Q	U
Y	S	C	H	A	R	G	E	S	G	R	O	U	P	M
T	E	N	U	Y	E	N	R	O	T	T	A	S	R	A
I	T	S	O	S	L	A	G	E	L	L	V	E	O	R
R	E	R	C	M	E	Ⓥ	G	I	I	D	T	S	C	O
O	T	O	I	E	M	D	Ⓞ	F	S	N	C	S	E	N
J	E	T	L	A	U	U	I	Ⓣ	E	R	T	E	E	G
A	S	U	B	J	L	C	S	M	Ⓔ	C	S	N	D	I
M	T	C	U	N	A	E	H	E	I	T	P	T	I	N
R	I	E	P	T	U	S	N	D	R	C	E	I	N	Q
E	M	S	I	Q	I	I	R	U	L	E	C	W	G	U
P	O	O	E	N	N	E	O	J	U	R	I	E	S	I
U	N	R	U	G	V	C	W	S	T	C	A	F	E	R
S	Y	P	R	O	P	O	S	A	L	S	L	A	W	E

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Accused, Amendment, Attorney, Cause, Charges, Courts, Criminal, Facts, Group, Ignoramus, Inquire, Judge, Juries, Law, Legal, Proceedings, Proposals, Prosecutors, Public, Punishment, Qualifications, Reach, Requests, Rule, Screening, Special, Summons, Supermajority, Suspect, Sworn, Testimony, Trial, Verdict, Vote, Witnesses

Last Thursday's Answer: First Down

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Applications can be obtained and submitted at Century Travel Agency, Inc. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm,
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  - Good Verbal and written communication skills.
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  - Experience in Airline, airport or sales/reservation/ticketing is preferred.
  - Must be legally authorized to work in the U.S.
  - Team player and customer service oriented attitude.
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- Mail your resume to : P.O. BOX 504930, Saipan MP 96950

Attn: **JINAIR representative.**

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We are seeking for high energy individuals with a positive, can do attitude.
Pacific Islands Club, Saipan is inviting qualified, U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

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Minimum of 18 months related work experience. Good communication skills and ability to work well with people are essential. Preferably with administrative skills and knowledge in Micros Point of Sale system. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

CLUBMATES
Must have previous related work experience and must pass all American Red Cross Lifeguard requirements (including a 300 yard continuous swim test); Sports-minded individuals are encouraged to apply; Must possess good verbal and written communication skills; Korean, Japanese and/or Russian language skill is a plus; Paid training and free two year lifeguard certification course for eligible candidates; Must be able to work on evenings, weekends and holidays.

(3) SALES ASSOCIATE
Seeking a highly motivated sales associates to join our team. The ideal candidate will have customer service experience and be able to work flexible hours. Bilingual in Japanese, Korean or Russian a plus. Previous Retail experience preferred, but we are willing to train. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Monday, May 16th, 2016.
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We are seeking for high energy individuals with a positive, can do attitude.
Pacific Islands Club, Saipan is inviting qualified, U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

(1) ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT
Minimum of two (2) years of work experience, preferably in hospitality and knowledge of generally accepted accounting and bookkeeping principles and procedures. Degree in accounting is required. Strong knowledge in using front office systems and point-of-sale systems such as Opera Property Management System and Micros POS. Must be able to work evenings, C-shift (for night audit reliever 11PM-7AM), weekends and holidays.

(4) BARTENDERS
Minimum one (1) year work experience; Must be at least 21 years old. Ability to speak Chinese, Korean, Russian or Japanese is preferred. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) CARPENTER
Minimum of three (3) years work experience as a cabinet maker and finishing carpenter. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) CHINESE COOK
Minimum of two (2) years related work experience in preparing Chinese cuisine. Must be able to coordinate and support team members within the kitchen department. Must be able to communicate clearly in English. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

CLUBMATES
Must have previous related work experience and must pass all American Red Cross Lifeguard requirements (including a 300 yard continuous swim test); Sports-minded individuals are encouraged to apply; Must possess good verbal and written communication skills; Korean, Japanese and/or Russian language skill is a plus; Paid training and free two year lifeguard certification course for eligible candidates; Must be able to work on evenings, weekends and holidays.

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(3) SALES ASSOCIATE
Seeking a highly motivated sales associates to join our team. The ideal candidate will have customer service experience and be able to work flexible hours. Bilingual in Japanese, Korean or Russian a plus. Previous Retail experience preferred, but we are willing to train. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

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Minimum of two (2) years stewarding experience plus two (2) years supervisory experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) THAI COOK
Minimum of two (2) years work experience in preparing Thai and Asian cuisine. Must be able to coordinate and support team members within the kitchen department. Must be able to communicate clearly in English. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Saturday, May 7th, 2016.
PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance. Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered.
PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Aldridge scores 38, powers Spurs over Thunder

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—The San Antonio Spurs dismantled the Oklahoma City Thunder—in a hurry.

LaMarcus Aldridge had 38 points and the Spurs beat the Thunder 124-92 on Saturday night, never trailing in Game 1 of the second-round series.

The Spurs scored the most postseason points against the Thunder and came within eight points of matching their largest postseason victory ever.

"Obviously, it kind of got away from them," San Antonio veteran Tim Duncan said. "We didn't expect that, but we'll take it at the start of a series."

Aldridge broke out for his best game of the season after Memphis held him to 14.5 points in the first round, nearly seven points below his regular-season numbers. The 6-foot-11 forward was 18 for 23 from the field, including his first 3-pointer of the season and banking in a left-handed scoop shot as he was falling in the lane.

"It was just one of those nights," Aldridge said. "I can't take credit for it. I was just trying to play confident and ended up making some plays that I probably won't make the next game. It was enough for me tonight."

The Spurs had 39 assists, which was more than the Thunder's field goal total of 35.

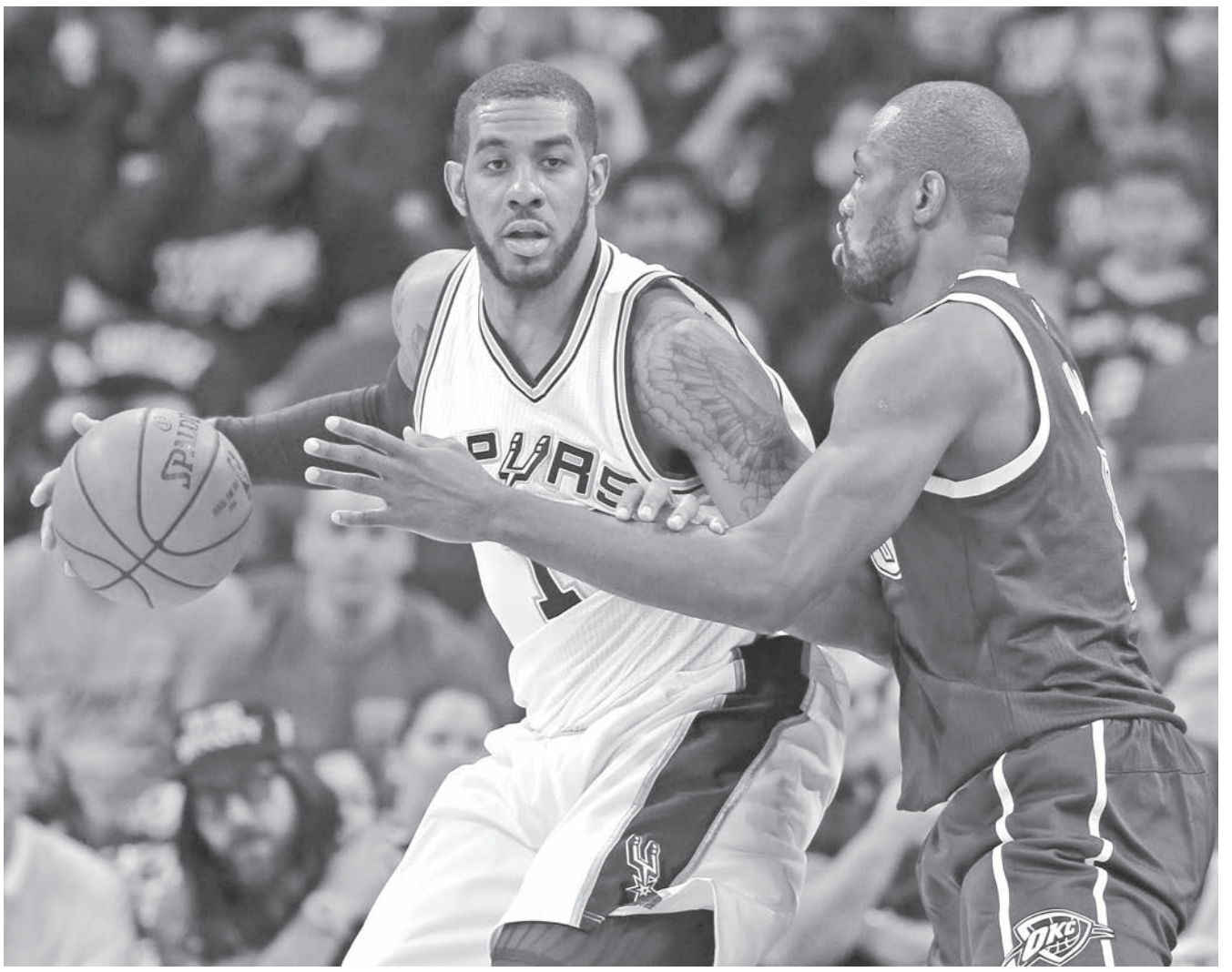
Kawhi Leonard added 25 points, five rebounds and five assists in 22 minutes for San Antonio. The Spurs led by as many as 43 points and sat their starters in the fourth quarter to rest them for Game 2 on Monday night.

Leonard and Aldridge combined for 45 points in the first half, outscoring Oklahoma City as a team by four. Unfortunately for the Thunder, the rest of the Spurs were just as impressive early.

San Antonio guard Danny Green was 5 for 6 on 3-pointers in scoring 18 pointers and as a team the Spurs were 9 for 15 on 3s.

"I think our defense ignited our offense," Green said. "We were able to get out on the break by making it tough for them on that end of the floor, making them take some tough ones. They obviously didn't get a rhythm. They were cold. Luckily for us, they missed a good amount of them, so we were able to get out on the break and we moved the ball well, took some uncontested shots and everybody kind of got a rhythm going."

San Antonio matched a postseason franchise record for points in a quarter with 43 in the opening period.



AP

San Antonio Spurs forward LaMarcus Aldridge, left, works the ball past Oklahoma City Thunder forward Serge Ibaka, right, during the first half in Game 1 of a second-round NBA basketball playoff series, Saturday, April 30, 2016, in San Antonio.

"We didn't have that sense of urgency tonight coming out of the gate for whatever reason," Oklahoma City guard Andre Roberson said.

Serge Ibaka led Oklahoma City with 19 points. Kevin Durant had 16 points, and Russell Westbrook added 14, but they were harassed into 11-for-34 shooting.

"They do a good job of helping," Westbrook said. "Most of the time it's help-side defender. Me personally, I never look at the guy in front of me. I look at the help see what's the next move. Not a big problem, just got to find ways to read the help a little bit better, and make better decisions."

San Antonio shot 82 percent in the opening quarter, including 3 for 4 on 3-pointers in taking a 23-point lead. The Spurs also blocked six shots, collapsing and surrounding the Thunder with multiple defenders whenever they drove into the lane.

The only scare came when Leonard grabbed the back of his left leg after landing on it awkwardly off a powerful one-handed dunk on the game's opening possession. San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich paced the sideline in concern, asking Leonard "are you OK?" on the Spurs' ensuing possession. Leonard didn't respond verbally, but his dynamic efforts on both ends of the court answered Popovich's concerns.

He shot 10 for 13 from the field and had only one turnover while guarding Westbrook and Durant.

Walton has unfinished work with Warriors before Lakers job

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Luke Walton was in no rush to leave his job as an assistant coach with the Golden State Warriors.

He won an NBA championship his first season, went 39-4 as interim coach in place of Steve Kerr to start this season and was part of a team that set the single-season record for wins in the regular season.

But when the Los Angeles Lakers came calling, Walton could not turn down the team he began his career with and which he helped win two NBA titles.

"I was very comfortable with the idea of coming back here and coaching again next year with this team and Steve," Walton said Saturday. "I was fine with that. But you have to take the opportunities when they come."

The Lakers announced Friday night that they had agreed to a contract to hire Walton just five days after firing Byron Scott. It all came together very fast as Walton interviewed in Oakland with Lakers owner Jim Buss and general manager Mitch Kupchak on Thursday before getting the offer the following day.

Walton said he was nervous to call Kerr to give him the news. He started the call by telling Kerr he had good news—he got the offer to coach the Lakers - and bad news - he was going to take it.

"He's thrilled for the opportunity and it's going to be great," Kerr said. "But it's bad news for all of us. You can't replace Luke. He's one of a kind. They broke the mold after they made Luke. We're going to miss him desperately."

Kerr credited Walton for helping to create the culture that allowed Golden State to win 140 games the past two regular seasons, including a record 73 this season. Walton took over when Kerr was sidelined by complications from offseason back surgery to start this season and led Golden State to a record 24 straight wins to open the season.

Walton will remain with the Warriors until their playoff run ends, while using some down time to prepare for his new job.

"My priority is the Warriors, these players and winning a championship right now," Walton said. "The Lakers know that and they know that's how it should be. We have a chance to do something very special."

Walton spent nine seasons as a forward for the Lakers, winning two championship rings as a smart, steady contributor. Three years after his retirement as a player, the 36-year-old Southern California native is back to become the 26th head coach in franchise history.

Walton, a second-round pick out of Arizona in 2003, was a depth forward on the Lakers' championship teams in 2009 and 2010 before getting traded to Cleveland in March 2012.

After his playing career ended in 2013, he worked briefly for the Lakers' television network as a broadcaster, and for their D-League team as a player development coach. Walton became an assistant in Golden State last season and earned promotion to the job of Kerr's lead assistant this season after Alvin Gentry left.

"I'm happy for him but at the same time this will sting a little bit," Warriors forward Draymond Green said. "He's obviously a guy we want around. When we have the type of success we had and he proved what he proved this year he deserves it. That's a dream job for him."

Kings to interview Ewing for head coaching job

SACRAMENTO (AP)—The Sacramento Kings will interview Charlotte Hornets associate head coach Patrick Ewing for their head coaching vacancy this week, league sources said.

Ewing has progressed as a serious head coach candidate in recent years, increasing in responsibilities and league-wide respect across his three seasons as Steve Clifford's top assistant with Charlotte.

Charlotte plays Miami on Sunday in a Game 7 of the Eastern Conference quarterfinals series.

What makes Ewing an intriguing candidate for Sacramento officials is his potential ability to command the respect of mercurial All-Star center DeMarcus Cousins, league sources said. Ewing, a Hall of Fame center, has the unique blend of his own physical and playing stature to go with a strong coaching pedigree as part of staffs with Clifford, Stan Van Gundy and Jeff Van Gundy.

Ewing has helped to develop several top centers, including Yao Ming (Houston), Dwight Howard (Orlando) and Al Jefferson (Charlotte).

Sacramento VP of Basketball Operations Vlade Divac has expressed to people a desire to have three finalists to bring to ownership for a final round of interviews, league sources told The Vertical. For now, Sacramento is still running through interviews with an initial, broad list of candidates.

Before joining Clifford in Charlotte, Ewing had been an assistant with Orlando (2007-12) and Houston (2001-2006) and Washington (2005-06).

This will be the third time that Ewing has interviewed for a head coaching job. He met with Charlotte (2011) and Detroit (2011) in past years.

Sacramento has met with several ex-head coaches and assistants, including Sam Mitchell, Vinny Del Negro, and Mike Woodson. Indiana Pacers assistant Nate McMillian—who had a successful run at Portland's coach—is expected to meet with Kings officials, too.

Owner Vivek Ranadive has been most intrigued with former Houston and Minnesota coach Kevin McHale, but McHale has been cautious in his approach to the job, league sources said.

Red Sox hand Yankees 4th straight loss

AP
New York Yankees' Jacoby Ellsbury is tagged out by Boston Red Sox shortstop Xander Bogaerts as he tries to steal second base during the third inning of a baseball game at Fenway Park on Saturday, April 30, 2016, in Boston.

BOSTON (AP)—Jackie Bradley Jr. and the Boston Red Sox finished their high-scoring April with another big night at the plate.

Bradley tripled twice and drove in three runs, David Ortiz homered again and the Red Sox blanked the struggling New York Yankees 8-0 on Saturday night.

Mookie Betts also had three RBI for the Red Sox, who shut out the Yankees at home for the first time since 2011. Boston had not beaten New York by eight or more runs in a shutout at Fenway Park since 1973.

The Red Sox will look to sweep the three-game series Sunday night when new ace David Price gets his first regular-season taste of the longtime rivalry.

Boston isn't just piecing runs together. The Red Sox are scoring in bunches and hitting the ball hard. Bradley also doubled Saturday in addition to his triples.

"I think it just makes for a longer run," Bradley said, joking about his triples. "It's always good. That means you're put in a good place usually when you're able to get triples."

Rick Porcello (5-0) had six strikeouts and gave up five hits in seven innings to tie for the major league lead in wins.

Mets 6, Giants 5

In New York, Michael Conforto and Wilmer Flores homered and the New York Mets won their eighth in a row, building an early lead for Jacob deGrom and holding off the San Francisco Giants.

The crowd of 44,466 was the largest for a regular-season game at Citi Field since the park opened in 2009, with a lot of fans attracted by the Noah Syndergaard Garden Gnome giveaway.

Nationals 6, Cardinals 1

In St. Louis, Jayson Werth's three-run homer capped a four-run first inning and Joe Ross had another stingy outing for Washington in a victory over St. Louis.

Ross (3-0) allowed one run in six innings, raising his ERA to 0.79.

Tigers 4, Twins 1

In Minneapolis, Jordan Zimmermann won his fifth straight start since signing with Detroit, and Justin Upton hit a three-run homer in the first inning to help the Tigers top Minnesota.

Zimmermann (5-0) gave up one run with no walks and seven strikeouts over seven innings.

Athletics 2, Astros 0

In Oakland, Jesse Hahn pitched into the seventh inning in his return to the majors and combined with two relievers on a four-hitter as Oakland held off Houston.

The Astros loaded the bases in the ninth before Ryan Madson got Evan Gattis to ground into a game-ending double play for his eighth save.

Rays 4, Blue Jays 3

In St.Petersburg, Curt Casali drove in the winning run with a single in the ninth inning and Tampa Bay beat Toronto.

Brad Miller led off the ninth with a pinch-hit single off Brett Cecil (0-5). Miller beat first baseman Justin Smoak to the bag after a grounder.

Pirates 5, Reds 1

In Pittsburgh, Francisco Liriano won for the first time since opening day and John Jaso hit a leadoff homer as Pittsburgh won its sixth straight and handed Cincinnati its sixth consecutive loss.

Liriano (2-1) allowed one run in 6 2/3 innings for his first win since April 3 against St. Louis.

White Sox 8, Orioles 7

In Baltimore, Jose Abreu hit a tiebreaking single in the ninth inning off reliever Vance Worley, lifting Chicago over Baltimore.

After Todd Frazier hit a two-run homer off Darren O'Day in the eighth to give the White Sox a 7-5 lead.

Phillies 4, Indians 3

In Philadelphia, Freddy Galvis homered and hit the go-ahead single to lead Philadelphia past Cleveland for its fifth straight victory.

The surprising Phillies (14-10) have won eight of nine and are four games over .500 for the first time since they finished the 2011 season 102-60.

Marlins 7, Brewers 5

In Milwaukee, Adeiny Hechavarria had four hits, including one of four solo home runs that helped streaking Miami beat Milwaukee.

Giancarlo Stanton, Derek Dietrich and Marcell Ozuna also homered as the Marlins won their seventh consecutive game. It is their longest winning streak since a seven-game run in early May 2012.

Rangers 7, Angels 2

In Arlington, Rougned Odor matched a Rangers record with three doubles, Mitch Moreland hit a three-run homer and Texas benefited from another replay challenge in a victory over Los Angeles.

Derek Holland (3-1) pitched six shutout innings, allowing four hits. The Angels were scoreless until Albert Pujols homered in the ninth.

Rockies 5, Diamondbacks 2

In Phoenix, Trevor Story's two-run triple in the top of the ninth inning broke a tie, and Colorado beat Arizona.

Story, who homered in the four previous meetings between the teams this season, also doubled and drove in three runs for the Rockies, who have won four of five in Arizona this year.

Padres 5, Dodgers 2

In Los Angeles, Melvin Upton Jr. hit a tiebreaking two-run double in the fifth inning, and San Diego also got RBI doubles from Wil Myers and Matt Kemp.

Ross Stripling (0-1) gave up five runs and seven hits through 4 2/3 innings, striking out six and walking two in his fifth big league start.

Mariners 6, Royals 0

In Seattle, Wade Miley scattered five hits for his first career shutout and Kyle Seager hit a three-run homer to cap a four-run first inning as Seattle handed Kansas City its fifth consecutive loss.

Miley (2-2) struck out four and walked none for his second complete game in 139 starts. His only other complete game was last September with Boston in a 9-2 victory over Philadelphia, when he allowed two runs and five hits.

Broncos get quarterback without overpaying

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP)—John Elway leaned against a wall outside the team meeting room adorned with images from the Denver Broncos' Super Bowl season and declared, "The plan is to keep picking at the bottom of the round—and there is no Plan B!"

That last part was a playful nod to Peyton Manning's arrival in 2012 when Denver's general manager explained he had no fallback plan at quarterback.

For much of the last four years, he didn't need one.

Then, Brock Osweiler's exit in free agency 48 hours after Manning's retirement two months ago left Elway scrambling like he did when he guided the Broncos' fortunes from the line of scrimmage and not the front office.

Elway took some vicious hits, too, as the team's fan base and media corps dissected and debated his prolonged search for Manning's long-term successor.

Elway's patience paid off as he emerged from draft weekend with his presumed long-term answer in Paxton Lynch, a restocked roster and the financial flexibility to re-sign stars Von Miller, Emmanuel Sanders and Brandon Marshall in the months ahead.

"Those three are the ones," he'd love to ink to long-term deals, starting with Miller, the Super Bowl MVP, Elway said at the end of what he deemed was a terrific draft weekend for the Broncos.

Beginning with Osweiler's high price tag, Elway steadfastly refused to overpay for a quarterback, passing on the high demands of the 49ers for Colin Kaepernick and the Eagles for Sam Bradford.

Instead, he grabbed Manning's heir in the draft in Lynch, the mobile Memphis quarterback who's the crown jewel of a 2016 class loaded with promise and projects.

With a big frame and strong arm, Lynch is tailor-made for Gary Kubiak's offense, but he could use some seasoning and Elway has been saying all spring he'd be fine going with Mark Sanchez under center when the Broncos begin defense of their title against Carolina on Sept. 8.

"Because he's been in playoffs, he's been in championship games," Elway said. "He's proven he can do that. He hasn't done it in a while. I don't know that he's ever been in a great offensive system that takes advantage of what he can do. And I can't tell you I've gone and studied him when he was with the Jets. I know with the Eagles last year ... he played OK when he did play. He made a couple of mistakes.

"So, I think sometimes you get quarterbacks in the right situations, you get the right people around him, then you have a chance to take advantage of what they can do."

Elway doesn't plan on bringing in another veteran quarterback anytime soon because the Broncos need Sanchez, Lynch and Trevor Siemian to get plenty of snaps.

So, Sanchez continues to inch closer to being a full-time starter for the first time since 2012.

At $5 million this season, he's also a big bargain.

So is Lynch, who will get slightly more than $9 million over four years -- less than the $11.9 million Kaepernick is slated to earn in 2016 alone and about half of what Bradford's salary calls for this upcoming season.

Osweiler's deal with the Texans was for $72 million over four years with a whopping $37 million guaranteed for a player who's started just seven more games in the NFL than Lynch has.

Elway also reloaded his dominant defense on Day 2. He replaced lineman Malik Jackson with athletic Australian Adam Gotsis of Georgia Tech in Round 2. Then, he filled the void left by David Bruton Jr.'s exit with Boston College safety Justin Simmons.

On Saturday, Elway was back on the offensive, selecting Utah running back Devonte Booker in the fourth round, Missouri guard Connor McGovern in the fifth and Nebraska fullback/special teamer Andy Janovich with his first of two sixth-round picks.

He wrapped it up by selecting Arizona safety Will Parks in the sixth round and Syracuse punter Riley Dixon in the seventh. Dixon's selection could be bad news for eight-year pro Britton Colquitt, who carries a $4 million cap hit and $3.25 million salary for next season. The Broncos also signed punter Will Johnson over the winter.

Leicester eyes title in game vs Manchester United

LONDON (AP)—"All the world's a stage," William Shakespeare famously wrote, and none are bigger in English football than "The Theatre of Dreams" at Old Trafford.

It is here where the most unlikely of teams can become the most celebrated of them all Sunday, for Leicester City would most certainly wear these glories of Premier League champions for more than a day amid lasting rejoice should they emerge with a title-clinching victory at Manchester United.

"We want to do this," manager Claudio Ranieri told Leicester's official website Friday. "We are fighting to make this dream a reality, but not yet. I told (the players) everything is in our hands and we must continue. The story of football is fantastic but you have to be focused on the match, not other things."

The longest of preseason longshots at 5,000-to-1 to win the title, Leicester City (22-10-3) are on the brink of history. Even legendary Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson tipped them to lift the trophy in March.

Ferguson, though, also projected the Foxes wrapping up the race before they arrived at his old stomping grounds. Yet Leicester can join the 2001-02 Arsenal side as the only opponents to secure a Premier League title at Old Trafford.

"We cannot allow that they are the champions this weekend at Old Trafford," United manager Louis van Gaal said. "I think that we have to beat Leicester because we are still in the race for the first positions, so we have to beat them."

With a seven-point lead and three matches remaining, Leicester need only a victory or a loss by Tottenham Hotspur—the last team standing who can overtake the Foxes—at Chelsea on Monday to clinch their first top-flight title in the club's 132-year history. A draw coupled with the Spurs failing to record their first win at Stamford Bridge since 1990 will also be enough for Leicester, whose previous best finish was First Division runners-up in 1928-29.

"We've got three massive games left— three cup finals is what the manager is saying to us," midfielder Andy King told Foxes Player HD. "It's one game at a time—everyone keeps saying it. We've got a tough game at Manchester United, who are going for a top-four position, which is obviously massive for them.

"We're confident of putting in a good performance. That will stand us in good stead and we're looking forward to it."

Leicester are champions-elect following their 4-0 thrashing of Swansea City at King Power Stadium last Sunday, winning easily without suspended striker Jamie Vardy. Newly minted PFA Player of the Year Riyad Mahrez opened the scoring on 10 minutes before Leonardo Ulloa—Vardy's replacement—bagged a brace on either side of halftime.

Marc Albrighton added a fourth as this unlikely saga added more critical mass as a now-worldwide phenomenon. All of Leicester City are on the edge of realising the dream Ranieri is longing to fulfill in the East Midlands while keeping his team rooted in pragmatic reality.

Bank of Guam donates $3K to Governor's Tourism Cup

The Bank of Guam has joined the growing list of sponsors for the 1st Annual Governor's Tourism Cup Golf Tournament after donating $3,000 last week

Proceeds of the tournament set for May 14 will go to the Marianas Tourism Education Council (MTEC), which was created by the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) in 2002. The tournament is hosted by the Office of the Governor and the MVA and will be held on the east course of Laolao Bay Golf & Resort with a shotgun start at 7:30am.

"The Bank of Guam has always been and continues to be a stalwart corporate citizen, most especially where the development of our children are concerned," said tournament director James Nelson. "We're extremely delighted and grateful to have the Bank of Guam as major sponsor for this inaugural golf tournament."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Joaquin Cook,fourth left, of Bank of Guam presents a $3,000 sponsorship check last week for the Inaugural Governor's Tourism Cup Golf Tournament set for May 14. Pictured from left are Bank of Guam vice president/CNMI regional manager Marcie Tomokane, Marianas Visitors Authority Community Projects manager Martin Duenas, Marianas Tourism Education Council chai Vicky Benavente, Cook, and MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion.

The tournament committee has also received several prize commitments from companies such as Pacifica Insurance, which is donating a $5,000.00 hole-in-one prize. Hyatt Regency Saipan, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, and the Kanoa Resort have donated several hotel night stays and meals, while Delta Air Lines has donated a roundtrip ticket to Japan. More prizes are expected as the tournament nears.

Food and beverage sponsors include the Pacific Trading Co., Herman's Modern Bakery and MARPAC. The tournament will feature a morning snack, BBQ hotdog stands on the course, and free-flowing beverages throughout the event.

The tournament entry fee is $100 and includes cart and green fees, morning snacks, on-course refreshments and awards banquet. Entry forms are available under the MVA Events Calendar at www.mymarianas.com or at the MVA office on Beach Rd. in San Jose, where forms may be submitted and payments may be made. Checks should be made payable to "Marianas Tourism Education Council or MTEC." Credit card payments will not be accepted. Deadline for entries is 5pm on May 11.

For more information, contact Nelson at 670-483-4215 or jen6753@gmail.com, or MVA Community Projects manager Martin Duenas at 670-664-3200-01 or mduenas@mymarianas.com.

FALCONS'

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In other categories, Kapileo's three homers tie Nakamura's, while the former's 24 RBIs are better than the 20 of the Comets' slugger. In the runs race, Nakamura is ahead with his 23, while Kapileo and Teregeyo have 22 each.

In the triples department, Norita and Castro are even with three each, while Delbert Sablan has the lead in the most doubles with his eight. Heath Camacho and Castro have six and five, respectively. In strikeouts, Kaipat has 65 to lead Joven Reyes (57) and Kapileo (56).

In the team standings (excluding last weekend's results), the Comets are still on top with their 10-0 mark, followed by the Little Legals (8-3), Falcons (8-3), Docomo Ol'Aces (6-4), NSA Braves (6-6), Twins (5-5), McDonald's (3-7), IT&E (1-7), and Pirates (0-9). Only The Top 8 teams will advance to the playoffs.

MPU

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ing a shot that rolled to the right corner of the goal post past the hands of Kanoa keeper Merrick Toves.

After Basnet's conversion, Kanoa was left with a little time to attempt for an equalizer, which did not came, as MP United held its defense, preventing its foe from getting clear possessions in the dying seconds of the match.

MP United was awarded the perpetual trophy after the tough win. It was the club's third title victory since the inception of the annual tournament in 2011. MPU's second championship came in 2013 and all three titles were from the squad's U12 crew. Matansa's girls U15 team topped last year's tournament, while Paire was the champion in 2014 and the former's U12 squad ruled the 2012 competition.

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association general secretary Ross Zapanta presented the perpetual trophy to MP United, its coaches Chris Aninzo and Joshua Abragan and manager Randy Steele. Joining Basnet on the champion squad were goalie Richard Steele, Fiona Bucalig, Andrew Chung, Jeremiah Diaz, Julianne Hall, Akira Kadokura, Dylan Kim, Jerrick Quimzon, and Rintaro Miyawaki,

Earlier under the last two-minute mark of the title match, Miyawaki let go of a similar shot near the same spot, but his attempt went wide to the right. However, MP United kept trying and this time its persistence paid off as Basnet's kick rolled in.

MP United advanced to the finals and foiled an all-Kanoa title duel after beating the latter's girls U15 team, 1-0. Andrew Chung posted the winning goal for Kanoa as he found the back of the net in the 18th minute. Kanoa U12A, on the other hand, needed a penalty shootout to oust Shirley's FC girls U15 in the other semis pairing, 4-1.

Kanoa U15 went on to settle for the third place honors after downing Shirley's U15 in the consolation match, 3-0. Britanny Wally, Rushell Valino, and Paulynn Grace Joyce knocked in one goal apiece for Kanoa U15.

In the elimination round matches, MPU's girls U15 team defeated MPU U12B, 3-1, to force a quarterfinal showdown against Kanoa U12. Gillian Villagomez had a pair of goals, while Grace Choi added one in the victory. MPU U12B drew its lone goal from Sean Gill.

In other results, Jasmine Phan's goal in the 20th minute lifted Shirley's U15 past Paire's girls U15, while Kanoa U12 got goals from Jose and Maniago to boot out MPU U15 and move into the semis on the west side of the draw.

On the east side, MP United marched into the semis after blanking Paire U12. Miyawaki drilled the two goals for the eventual champion. Tan Holdings U12 also tallied two goals—one each from Anthony Bergancia and Angelo Pulido—to eliminate Shirley's U12, which logged only one, courtesy of William Celeste.

Tan Holdings U12 was then pitted against Kanoa U15, which got a lucky break in its 2-1 quarterfinal victory. Kanoa made it to the board of two own goals in the second half, while Tan Holdings' lone conversion came from Bergancia in the 23rd minute.

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third, followed by Terry Deleon Guerrero (94), Matilda Hocog (99), and Gabrielle Compton (104).

In the Ladies Low Gross, Chang Hee Yoo shot a 80 to dethrone 2015 champion Yong Sook Kwon. Yoo fired a 39 and 41 on the front and back nines against the 45 and 37 of Kwon for a two-stroke win.

Meanwhile, Seung San Choi, Rene Batallones, Medson Ladore, Edvon Sze, and Jeff G. Taylor were the other flight winners in the annual tournament which aimed to raise funds to support NMC's academic programs and services.

Choi earned a three-stroke victory in the Championship Flight against Dony Young Lee as the former recorded a 3-over par 39 in the first nine holes and 1-over par 37 in the last for a gross 76. Lee had a 79, matching Choi's score on the front nine, but faltering on the back with his 4-over 40. Adam Lee Kuen rounded out the Top 3 after his 80 (40s on both nines), while six others joined the toughest flight in the competition.

Batallones lorded it over in the 11-player A Flight after shooting an 82, just one shot ahead of Louie Tilipao. Batallones secured the division title after bouncing back on the back nine with his 39, four strokes better than his 43 on the back. Tilipao also tallied a 39 in the last nine hole, but had 44 in the first to settle for the runner-up honors, while John Reyes completed the Top 3 after registering an 86 (46 and 40).

In the B Flight, Ladore won on the scorecard tiebreak against Paul Kaipat. The two golfers had similar 84 gross scores with Ladore posting a 44 and 40 on the front and back nines and Kaipat tallying a 43 and 41. Danny Quitugua made it to the podium with his 86 (44 and 42).

In the C Flight, Sze shot a 46 and 44 for a gross 90 and a two-stroke win against Joe Chen, who recorded a 44 on the front and 48 on the back on drop to second. Kevin McCale finished third with his gross 93 (47 and 46).

In the Senior Flight, Taylor escaped with a one-shot victory against Tooshiyuki Mori and Nick Sablan, who logged similar gross scores of 80s. Taylor started slow with his 42 on the front nine, but still secured the win after a field-best 1-over par 37 on the back for a gross 79. Mori had a 41 and 39, while Sablan tallied 40s on both nines.

The Top 3 finishers in each flight received cash prizes with the champion taking home $500 and the second and third placers pocketing $300 and $200, respectively.

2016 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships Winners

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Girls U16 singles champion Conatsu Kaga, right, poses with runner-up Asia Raulerson during the awards ceremony for the 2016 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships last week at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

Girls U14 singles champion Coume Kaga, right, and runner-up Maria Gregoire are all smiles after receiving their medals.

JC Ferrer, left, is joined by Thalieena Raulerson for a photo after they were awarded the first and second place medals, respectively.

From left, runners-up Robbie Schorr and Ken Song, and champions Tony Kim and Michael Ren gather for a group photo after the presentation of the boys U18 doubles medals.

From Left, Seung Won Lee, Andy Kim, Richard Steele, and Rintaro Miyawaki pose with their medals in the boys U12 doubles.

Isabel Heras, right, shows the perpetual U18 girls singles trophy she won against Asia Raulerson, left.

Boys U10 singles champion Anthony Gregoire, left, is joined by runner-up Andrew Chung during the medals presentation.

Boys U14 singles runner-up Seung Jin Paik, left, poses with champion and perennial rival Ji Min Woo.

Boys U12 singles runner-up Rintaro Miyawaki and champion Seung Jin Paik show their medals.

Aldridge scores 38, powers Spurs over Thunder

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Red Sox hand Yankees 4th straight loss

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Last-second goal lifts MPU past Kanoa

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MP United U12A's Rohan Basket dribbles past a Kanoa U12 defender on his way to scoring the winning goal in their title victory in the 2016 FA Boys and Girls Challenge Cup last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MP United Football Club's co-ed U12A team escaped with a thrilling 1-0 win over Kanoa FC U12A to rule the 2016 FA Boys and Girls Challenge Cup last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Rohan Basnet made the dagger in the last 30 seconds of the closely fought finale. The winning shot came after Jaydee Jose hit a back kick past midcourt with the ball landing in from of Basnet and Jim Maniago, who also went for the kick. Basnet then chased the ball after his shot and had two Kanoa defenders running after him as he dribbled toward the right center defense before unload-

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Falcons' Kapileo lords it over in Majors division

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Falcons' Kyle Kapileo is dominating the Majors division of the 2016 Saipan Little League Baseball as he leads four categories heading into the closing stage of the regular season.

Kapileo is ahead in the batting and pitching races (as of April 24) and is also on top of the RBIs and home run contests.

The Falcons players went 22-for-34 at bat in their 11 games for a batting average of .647. Kapileo paces the Comets' Vincent Nakamura, who earned a batting average of .625 after going 20-for-32 in his team's string of 10 wins. IT&E's Patrick Celis is the third batter to average at least .600 as his 14-for-23 performance gave him .608.

Joining Kapileo, Nakamura, and Celis in the Top 10 are the Comets' Reid Teregeyo (.588), the Little Legals' Justin Agulto (.578), the Braves' Heath Camacho (.558), the Falcons' Jonathan Renguul (.538), the Twins' Eliray Castro (.518), the Braves' Tristan Norita (.516), the Little Legals' Delbert Sablan (.500), Braves' A.J. Johnson (.500), and the Ol'Aces' Nathan Aizon (.500). Eight other players made it to the batting leaderboard, which was based on 23 or more times at bat.

In the pitching race, Kapileo posted a 0.48 ERA as he allowed only two runs in 25 innings pitched. He is on top of Agulto (0.70), teammate Keoni Serrano (0.80). Delbert Sablan (1.26), and the Ol'Aces' Ohane Borja (.150). The pitching leaders were based on 12 or more innings pitched.

Kapileo has a good chance of keeping his lead in both the batting and pitching races as the Majors division has one more playing weekend left (including last weekend's matches) in its regular schedule, while another weekend is reserved for make-up matches. Kapileo's Falcons were scheduled to close out their elimination round assignment last Saturday against the Pirates.

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Two Falcons players get ready to catch a fly ball during their game in the Majors division of the SLLB at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

Jones leads winners in NMC golf tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Sherlyn Jones made it to the winners list of last Saturday's 13th NMC Foundation Open Golf Tournament held on the west course of the Laolao Bay Golf and Resort.

Jones, who missed last year's podium, was the top finisher in the Ladies Low Net category after recording an 83. She was nearly consistent with her game last weekend after tallying a 42 on the front and 41 on the back to place ahead of five others.

Yuko Togawa came in at second with her net 86, built around a pair of 43s. Seon Hee Kim (93) was ranked

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Low Net champion Sherlyn Jones, right, and runner-up Yuko Togawa pose for a photo while waiting for the awards ceremony for the 13th NMC Foundation Open Golf Tournament last Saturday at the Laolao Bay Golf and Resort.